WEDNESDAY
May 24, 2023

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SEEKING SUPPORT

**Trinamool to oppose Delhi Ordinance**

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**Top 4 UPSC ranks go to women**

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**Russia alleges drone attacks by Ukraine**

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JALLIKATTU CASE

***Justice that also makes space for animal rights***

*Court response to T.N. stand is dissatisfactory*

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ONE STEP AWAY

**Super Kings advance to their 10th final**

SPORT » PAGE 15

## DKS takes top police officers to task over 'saffronisation' of force

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Top police officers had to face the wrath of Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday as he took them to task over alleged "saffronisation" of the force during the erstwhile BJP regime.

"Our government will not allow it," Mr. Shivakumar asserted while participating in a meeting of police top brass along with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to review the law and order situation.

Mr. Shivakumar told the police officers, "I know how you insulted the Police Department by turning up in saffron attire in Mangaluru, Vijayapura, and Bagalkote." He was referring to the episode of police celebrating festivals in police stations in saffron attire.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

# ₹2,000 notes reach banks amid hiccups

Four-month window opens amid complaints that some bank branches sought identity proof; banks say there is ample cash to meet demand

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The four-month window to exchange or deposit ₹2,000 currency notes opened on Tuesday with small queues and confusion at some banks over the requirement of identity cards such as PAN or Aadhaar, and requisition slips.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on May 19 announced withdrawal of ₹2,000 notes from circulation in pursuance of its 'Clean Note Policy'. It advised the public to deposit such notes into their bank accounts or exchange them for notes of other denominations at any bank branch, up to a limit of ₹20,000 at a time, by September 30.

While the RBI has not made the presentation of a valid ID or filling of deposit forms mandatory, there were complaints from some places that banks were asking customers to submit identity cards as proof.

Scores of people lined up outside banks in Delhi as the temperature hovered around 43 degrees Celsius. Chaos and confusion prevailed over the process of exchange which left people, especially the elderly, disgruntled. Nearly 100 people turned up at a Union Bank branch in Connaught Place.

Manoj Kumar, a customer of HDFC bank, said though he wanted to exchange 20 notes, he was asked to give only 10 by the bank staff.

Notes being exchanged at a bank in Bhopal on Tuesday. A.M. FARUQUI

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

## Update NPR to enumerate self during next Census

**Vijaita Singh**
NEW DELHI

If citizens want to exercise the right to fill the Census form on their own rather than through government enumerators, they will have to first update their National Population Register (NPR) details online.

The NPR, first put together in 2010 and updated in 2015, already has the details of 119 crore people.

Census 2021, which has been postponed indefinitely, will be the first digital Census giving citizens an opportunity to "self-enumerate" as and when it is conducted.

The government has not announced when the next census will be held, with a January 2 notification ruling out the exercise at least till September.

The Census is conducted in two phases.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

**Strong bond:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese in Sydney. GETTY IMAGES

## India-Australia ties built on trust: Modi

**Press Trust of India**
SYDNEY

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the foundation of India-Australia relations lies in mutual trust and respect, as he along with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese addressed the Indian diaspora at a mega event here.

During the event, a suburb in Australia – Harris Park – was renamed "Little India", reflecting the strong bond between the two strategic partners.

Mr. Modi also announced that India would open a consulate in Brisbane to fulfil a long-pending demand by the diaspora. The Prime Minister was given a rousing welcome by thousands of Indians who thronged the Qudos Bank Arena.

Mr. Albanese described India as a "force of global good" and a "bright spot" in the world economy.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

## NEARBY

### 'Pre-monsoon rain havoc has claimed 52 lives'

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that the pre-monsoon showers, which were in excess of 10% compared with normal rainfall, had claimed the lives of 52 persons. » Page 5

### Citizens hope Sankey Road flyover is shelved

BENGALURU
With the State government putting off the commencement of new projects approved by the previous regime, citizens are hoping that the Sankey Tankbund road flyover project will be cancelled. » Page 3

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 3

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# ‘The 400m win at London meant the world to me’

Sanya Richards-Ross, one of the best quartermilers of all time, and four-time Olympic champion recounts how she overcame the 2008 Games disappointment to realise her dream

ATHLETICS

Ashwin Achal

Leading into the 2008 Beijing Olympics, Sanya Richards-Ross was the favourite to claim the women’s 400m gold.

Sanya was among the world’s best, racking up timings under the 50 second-mark. A couple of years earlier, Sanya had finished the World Cup race in 48.70 seconds, which was a new United States record. This mark, incidentally, has held good to this day.

**Traumatic**

Sanya had finished sixth in the 2004 Athens Olympics, and had her sights set on claiming the top prize at Beijing. But Sanya’s world turned upside down, when just a few weeks before the mega event in the Chinese capital, she found out that she was pregnant. Sanya chose to get an abortion – a traumatic decision to make.

In an interview to Bleacher Report, Sanya stated that she flew to Beijing just a day after her abortion. Mentally and physically worn out, Sanya pulled through the 400m race to win bronze. She did win gold for the 4x400m United States relay team with a brilliant anchor run. The individual 400m race, however, was Sanya’s ultimate goal.

The Jamaica-born athlete, who was in Bengaluru as the TCS World 10K Bengaluru International Event Ambassador, spoke about the navigating through the deeply difficult experience.

“That was such a difficult experience, especially so because my coach and my dad did not know that I was pregnant. Only my mother, sister and now husband (former NFL player Aaron Ross) knew. It took a long time for me to talk about it, because it was such a tough personal situation,” Sanya said in a media interaction here.

**Spiritual crisis**

A devout Christian, Sanya battled a spiritual crisis as well. “A lot of what I face was moral and spiritual warfare. I didn’t feel like I was worthy of being an Olympic champion. That was a big knock on my mental wellbeing, even more than physical. All this showed up in the 400m individual final.

“I’m very careful about that I say, because I want to give credit to (gold medallist) Christine Ohuruogu. She ran a superb race, but I wasn’t at my best,” Sanya said.

Sanya made a big leap towards gaining mental peace when she started working with a sports psychologist a year after Beijing. “When I was competing, there was no focus on the mental state of an athlete. People just assumed that since you are an athlete, you are strong and you know how to manage your mental and physical health,” Sanya said.

**Help from psychologist**

“After my loss in Beijing, my coach suggested that I see a sports psychologist. No one had presented that idea to me before. It was a great idea that undoubtedly changed my life and sports career. Doing well in a track event at the Olympics is 90% mental, so why not work with a mental coach to get the best out of you,” Sanya said.

With the support of the sports psychologist, friends and family, Sanya turned the corner. She entered the 2012 London Olympics as the favourite in the 400m, and this time, she held her nerve to finally fulfil her dream. Sanya outclassed a tough field, which included defending champion Christine and 2011 world champion Amantle Montsho.

She then helped the United States finish on top in the 4x400m relay, taking her London tally to two gold medals. With this, Sanya had won three successive 4x400m relay golds.

“The individual 400m win at London meant the world to me, because missing out on gold at Beijing was a very hard pill to swallow. All my life, I had wanted to be an individual champion,” Sanya said.

The 4x400m relay triumph at Beijing also ranks high in her list of achievements. “At London, it was almost a victory lap as I had gotten the baton so far ahead of the others. At Beijing, I came from behind when the Russian team was ahead. It was nice to be recognised as the reason why my team won gold. That was a special feeling,” Sanya said.

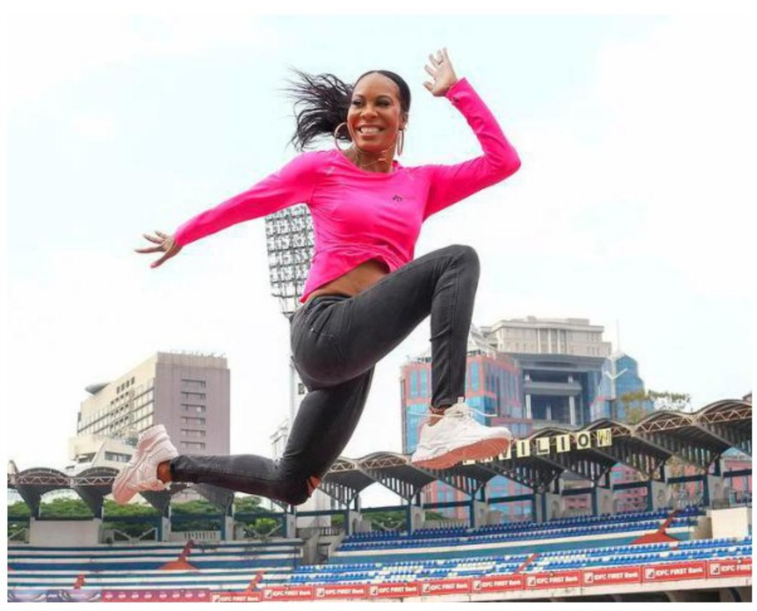
**Modern day icons**

Sanya named 2019 World Championship men’s 200m winner Noah Lyles, 400m hurdles women’s World record holder Sydney McLaughlin, 2020 Tokyo Olympics 800m women’s champion Athing Mu and American women’s sprinter Sha'Carri Richardson as the best modern day track athletes.

On Sha’Carri, who was ruled out of the 100m event at Tokyo after testing positive for cannabis, Sanya said, “Her talent is undeniable, but can she balance everything that is happening off the track? I’m rooting for her, and hoping that she goes on to do great things.”

**The moment!** Sanya Richards-Ross, second from left, taking the 400m gold in London. AP

**Doing the treble!** Sanya celebrates with teammates after completing a hat-trick of Olympic 4x400m relay triumphs in 2012. AP



**Sprightly as ever:** Sanya showed she had lost none of her prowess during her recent visit to Bengaluru. PTI

# England done and dusted, now City eyes Europe and the world

Aashin Prasad

The best striker in the world? Check. Best array of midfielders? Check. Best defenders? Check. Champagne football? Check. Dominance of English football? Complete.

Over the last decade, Manchester City – backed by Abu Dhabi’s City Football Group – has eclipsed all comers by completing a hat-trick of Premier League titles, a feat achieved only by city rival, United, twice between 1999-2001 and 2007-09. City has barely put a foot wrong (aside from the resolution of the alleged 115 Financial Fair Play breaches levelled against it) and is threatening to only get better.

But for all the money and the best players, without the signing of Pep Guardiola – hailed as the best coach in the world – it’s hard to imagine the success City has enjoyed in recent times. Guardiola landed in the Premier League in the 2016-17 season and finished third. After significant backing in the transfer market, City went on to claim five of the last six Premier League titles with some of the best attacking football witnessed in England.

**Fluid attacking system**

In the first two years of the three-peat, the genius of Guardiola’s fluid attacking system allowed City to adapt and still get the goals even in the absence of a recognised frontman. Central midfielders Ilkay Gundogan and Kevin de Bruyne were the top scorers with 13 and 15 goals respectively in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons when the team scored a whopping 83 and 99 goals.

This year, Guardiola could afford the riches: the all-conquering forward Erling Haaland for over £50 million, in particular. While the Spaniard largely stuck to his principles, he has tried to maximise the physical strengths and the aerial ability of the Norwegian to add another dimension to City’s attack. Haaland has responded with a league-shattering 36 strikes in 33 outings to go with his 52 goals overall.

And it’s not just in attack that City has excelled across the pitch. Since its last defeat at Tottenham Hotspur, City has conceded just 11 goals in 15 matches after conceding 20 in the first 21 games. Guardiola’s obsession with control, both on and off the ball, has led to intriguing tactical innovations – wingbacks in inverted central midfield roles (to overload the midfield) and a central defender in a dual centreback / central midfield positions (to quell the opposition attacks) – with resounding success.

What has been remarkable about Guardiola’s City has been the various challenges it has overcome in the last three seasons. In the first year, it had to deal with the setbacks of COVID-19. In the second, it had to stave off the relentless Liverpool which was breathing down its neck right till the end. In the current one, it had to overturn an eight-point deficit, at the start of April, to topple Arsenal.

**Relentless**

And the Citizens have done it by switching into gear, making it impossible for the challengers to keep pace. In the 2020-21 season, City went on a 19-game (17 wins, 2 draws) unbeaten run when it catapulted from 13th to first and remained there until the end. It was helped by the postponement of a crucial game away to Everton during the busy Christmas period, affording the team a rare week’s break.

In 2021-22, City managed 15 (14 wins, 1 draw) and 12 (9 wins, 3 draws) game unbeaten runs, helping it stay on top for 24 (game) weeks. In 2022-23, when it seemed like Arsenal would run away with it, City turned it around with a 15-game (14 wins, 1 draw) unbeaten run, including two statement wins over the Gunners. Incidentally, City has not lost in all competitions (24 matches) since the FFP charges were levelled against it on February 6 – a day after the Spurs defeat.

**Run of victories**

In the three seasons combined, City has a staggering 85 victories in 115 matches (two games left to play this season) and just 13 losses. In comparison, United’s two triple-crown winning teams registered 74 wins (12 defeats) during the 1999-01 period and 83 wins (14 defeats) in 2007-09.

City has not only been dominant in domestic competitions. It has reached the Champions League final twice, the FA Cup and League Cup finals once, and made one semi-final appearance in the Champions League and FA Cup. The consistency with which City has remained a formidable force has been made possible through its unmatched spending (barring Chelsea this season), enabling Guardiola to pick and rotate from a strong pool of 18-20 strong first-team players worth over £860m in the past three seasons, something its rivals can’t match. In the recent icing-on-the-cake win over Chelsea at home after it was confirmed champion, Guardiola put out a starting XI which cost £244m while the bench strength was £480m!

Despite the three league titles, what will be highlighted as City’s star-making moment will be the 4-0 drubbing (5-1 aggregate) of Real Madrid in the Champions League semifinal. The manner in which it dismantled the Goliath of the European Cup would have sounded warning signals across Europe even as City looks on course to win its maiden Champions League crown and complete its historic first treble.

With the best players, the best coach, the best recruiting team and the best network of clubs under the City Football Group, City is primed for the next step in its evolution: world domination.

**Formidable trio:** While City has benefited immensely by a staggering infusion of money in building its squad, the influence of Gundogan, De Bruyne and Haaland this season can’t be stressed enough. While the mid-field generals ensured that City controlled games, including key match-ups against Arsenal and Real Madrid, the Norwegian made opponents pay with his phenomenal scoring. AP, GETTY IMAGES

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BEFORE MR. JUSTICE JAYANT NATH, LD, SOLE ARBITRATOR
INDIAN COUNCIL OF ARBITRATION, FEDERATION HOUSE, TANSEN MARG, NEW DELHI
NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT/S THROUGH SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
ICA Arbitration Case No. AC-2314
**National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)**, Claimant
Vs. **M/s Interactive Institute of Job-Skills Pvt. Ltd, & Ors.**, Respondents
National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), has referred and filed a claim application against M/s Interactive Institute of Job-Skills Pvt. Ltd. & Ors., the details whereof are mentioned below:
**Respondent No.1:** M/s Interactive Institute of Job-Skills Pvt. Ltd. # 167, II Floor, Above SBI , Hennnur Main Road, Bangalore. Karnataka - 560043
**Respondent No.1 (Alternate address):** M/s Interactive Institute of Job-Skills Pvt. Ltd. # 40 a/40c, Above Cholamandalam Gold, Hennnur Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560043
**Respondent No.2:** Mr. Chandrashekar Yadav, Director, M/s Interactive Institute of Job-Skills Pvt. Ltd. # 167, IInd Floor, Above SBI, Hennnur Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560043
**Respondent No.2 (Alternate address):** Mr. Chandrashekar Yadav, Director, M/s Interactive Institute of Job-Skills Pvt. Ltd. Plot No. 29, Nandi's Flora-Sneha Jeevi Layout Vaderahalli Bidalur Panchayat, Bangalore Rural - 562110
**Respondent No.3:** Ms. Nileri Krishnappa Manjunatha, Director M/s Interactive Institute of Job-Skills Pvt. Ltd. 10th Ward, Nileri Devanahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka - 562110
The above-named Respondents are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Arbitral Tribunal in person or by their authorized legal representative on **20th July, 2023** at **4:00 p.m.** through Virtual mode to answer the same, failing which, the Hon'ble Arbitral Tribunal shall proceed to hear and determine the dispute ex-parte. For details of virtual hearing, contact at Indian Council of Arbitration, Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001 (Email: ica@ficci.com Ph: 011-23487427)
Given under my hand and seal of Indian Council of Arbitration on **15th May, 2023**
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## PERSONAL

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I Subaya** Cariappa Kambeyanda alias K C Subaya S/o Kambeyanda Aiyappa Cariappa , residing at #AG-2, Nipuna Heritage, 213/6,11th B Cross, Virupakshapura,Kodigehalli,Bengaluru,Karnataka - 560097, have changed my name to Subaya Cariappa Kambeyanda for all purposes in future

**I, (OLD** Name) Bidyalakshmi Keithellakpam, D/o K.Gyaneshwar Singh, Residing at Sagolband Meino Leirak, Imphal, Imphal West, Manipur-795001, shall henceforth be known as (New Name) Lovinna Kaur Keithellakpam vide affidavit dated 25/12/2020 before Notary V.Srinivasa Reddy, Bangalore.

**I, STELLARANI,** D/o. Chouramuttu, r/at Daughters of St. Mary of Providence, 4/1, St. John Armstrong Road, Richards Town, St. Thomas Town PO, Bengaluru 560084, have changed my name as Stellarani Chouramuttu vide affidavit dtd 19.05.2023 sworn before Notary B.V.Nagabhushana, Bluru

**I, GURUPRASAD** Yadalli, S/o Babu, R/ at No.6, 4th Floor, No.13, 5th Main, 3rd Cross, Krishna Nagar, Kothanur, J P Nagar 8th Phase, Bengaluru–560078 have changed my name from Guruprasad Yadalli to Guruprasad Babu Yadalli vide affidavit dated 23–05–2023 before Notary Uday Kumar.K, Bengaluru.

**I, MARPURI** Reddy Bhargav R/at AG01 Deepica Residency, 91/6 Nagavarpalya, Old Madras Road, Bengaluru 560093 have changed my minor Son's name from Gagan Marpuri Reddy to Marpuri Reddy Gagan vide affidavit dtd 22.05.2023 sworn before Notary S.Subashini, Bluru


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NOTICE is hereby given on behalf of my client **ALBERT B,** S/o. Bernard, residing at No.119, Chelkere, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043.
that he purchasing the below said property. This document belongs to **ALBERT B,** S/o. Bernard, who is residing at No.119, Chelkere, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043.
**The Property document was LOST the details of the schedule property are as follows:-**
All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing **Site No.12A, Khatha No.787 situated at Yarappanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to West: 42 Feet and North to South: 30 Feet in all measuring 1260 Square Feet.**
Vide registered Document No. BNS-1-14792/2013-14, of Book-1, Stored in CD No.BNSD297, dated: 30-01-2014 registered in the office of the sub registrar, Banaswadi, Bangalore.
Therefore hereby requested that any person/s found please return above said advocate address or office.

**M. RAJA ADVOCATE**
**No.387/1, Vinayaka Street, Munikalappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016.**
**Mob: 9448039704**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given on behalf of my client **LAZAR M,** S/o. Mareiswamy, residing at No.77, Mestripalya, Shivaram Karanth Nagar Post, Bangalore-560077.
that he purchasing the below said property. This document belongs to **LAZAR M,** S/o. Mareiswamy, who is residing at No.77, Mestripalya, Shivaram Karanth Nagar Post, Bangalore-560077.
**The Property document was LOST the details of the schedule property are as follows:-**
All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Residential Vacant **Site No.12A, Khatha No.787 formed in Property No.10 situated at Yarappanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Measuring East to West: 42 Feet, North to South: 30 Feet, in all total 1260 Sq.ft.**
Vide registered Document No. BNS-1-10936/2015-16, of Book-1, Stored in CD No.BNSD391, dated: 26-10-2015 registered in the office of the sub registrar, Banaswadi, Bangalore.
Therefore hereby requested that any person/s found please return above said advocate address or office.

**M. RAJA ADVOCATE**
**No.387/1, Vinayaka Street, Munikalappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016.**
**Mob: 9448039704**

## BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

Office of The Chief Engineer (Kaveri-Operation & Maintenance), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bangalore - 560009

IFT No: BWSSB/CE(K-O&M)/ACE(K-O&M)-1/81/2022/125/2023-24 Date: 19.05.2023

### INVITATION FOR TENDER

(Through e-procurement Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders in two cover system from eligible tenderers for the work of **Project Management Consultancy Services Including Construction Supervision for Supplying, Fabrication and Laying of Raw Water Transmission Main of 3000mm Dia MS Pipeline from Shiva Balancing Reservoir (SBR) to Netkal Balancing Reservoir (NBR) for a Length of 6.15 km**
**Amount Put to Tender: Rs. 174.86 Lakhs**
**EMD Amount : Rs. 2.63 Lakhs**
The Last Date and Time for receipt of tender document is on **07.06.2023 at 16.00 hrs.** The technical tender will be opened on **08.06.2023 at 16.00 hrs.** The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Kaveri-O&M)

DIPR/CP/101/Zen/2023-24

## Competent Authority and Joint Director of Co-Operative Audit, Bangalore

2nd Floor, BMTC building, K.H Road, Shantinagar, Bengaluru-27
Tel : 080 -22109665, e-mail: competentauthoritysdg2023@gmail.com

No. 2(7)/SriVasista/2022-23 Dated: 19.05.2023

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice to invite claim applications from depositors of Sri Vasista Credit Souharda Sahakari Niyamitha, Bangalore under Section 7(2) of Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishment (KPIDFE) Act, 2004.

According to Section 5(1) of KPIDFE Act 2004, The Joint Director of Co-Operative Audit, Head Office, Bangalore has been appointed as the Competent Authority of Fraudulent establishment 'SriVasista Credit Souharda Sahakari Niyamitha, Bangalore. Claim forms will be issued in the office of the Special Officer and Competent Authority (I.M.A) and Other Fraud Cases, 4th Floor, Podium Block, Visvesvaraya Tower, Dr. B.R Ambedkar Road, Bangalore,. to the depositor/authorized representative/nominee and in the absence of the nominee, the power of attorney holder on production of identity proof and proof of investment such as original copies of Bonds, official letter and PoA documents.

Start date of Submission of Claim Applications is from **25.05.2023**, Thursday. Last date for submission of applications will be **23.06.2023, Friday before 05.30 PM**. In case of death or hospitalization of the depositor, his nominees/heirs have to submit the following documents as proof of their identity and investment.

| Sl. No. | Depositors/ Depositor's Nominees | Documents to be submitted |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Depositors | Depositors should submit the documents duly notarised with Notary/Gazetted Officer/and with self declaration. |
| 2 | Nominee | 1. Death certificate of the depositor<br>2. Family tree (To be obtained from Tahsildar)<br>3. Nominee should self-attest the above documents. |
| 3 | Legal heirs | 1. Death Certificate of the depositor<br>2. Family tree (To be obtained from the Tahsildar)<br>3. Death certificate of the specific nominee<br>(Specific Nomination of the Death Certificate)<br>4. Legal heir's Certificate – Court Order<br>5. Legal Heir should submit self-attested above documents.<br>6. Consent from other Legal heirs |
| 4 | PoA – Power of Attorney | 1 Documents supporting hospitalization of the depositor. ( In case of critical illness, a report from Medical Officer should be submitted)<br>2. Apostalised copy citizen card and passport in case of depositor residing outside India.<br>3. For Sl. No. (1) and (2) Notarised Power of Attorney Certificate should be submitted.<br>4. POA holder should submit self attested above documents. |
| 5 | Guardian of minor | 1. Death certificate of depositor<br>2. Document regarding appointment of guardian<br>3. Self-attested documents of above |

Applicants submitting the claim applications should submit the below mentioned documents as proof of investments in Sri Vasista Credit Souharda Sahakari Limited, Bangalore

| Sl. No. | Depositors/ Depositor's Nominees | Documents to be submitted |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Savings Deposit | 1. Copy of front page of pass book with photograph.<br>2. Savings Deposit Pass Book issued by Sri Vasista Credit Souharda Sahakari ltd.<br>3. Transaction Statement page in Pass book of claimed amount.<br>*Depositors/Nominees/Legal Heirs/PoA holders must submit the above documents duly attested by Notary/Gazetted Officers/self. |
| 2 | Fixed Deposit | 1. Copy of front page of pass book with photograph.<br>2. Deposit Bond/ Certificate/Fixed Deposit Certificate/Other<br>3. Transaction Statement page in Pass book of claimed amount.<br>*Depositors/Nominees/Legal Heirs/PoA holders must submit the above documents duly attested by Notary/Gazetted Officers/self. |
| 3 | Cumulative Deposit | 1. Copy of front page of pass book with photograph.<br>2. Cumulative Deposit Certificate<br>3. Transaction Statement page in Pass book of claimed amount.<br>*Depositors/Nominees/Legal Heirs/PoA holders must submit the above documents duly attested by Notary/Gazetted Officers/self. |
| 4 | Recurring Deposit | 1. Copy of front page of pass book with photograph.<br>2. Recurring Deposit Pass Book issued by Sri Vasista Credit Souharda Sahakari. ltd<br>3. Transaction Statement page in Pass book of claimed amount.<br>*Depositors/Nominees/Legal Heirs/PoA holders must submit the above documents duly attested by Notary/Gazetted Officers/self. |
| 5 | Vasishta Special Investment | 1. Copy of front page of pass book with photograph.<br>2. Vasishta Special Investment Deposit Certificate<br>3. Transaction Statement page in Passbook of claimed amount.<br>*Depositors/Nominees/Legal Heirs/PoA holders must submit the above documents duly attested by Notary/Gazetted Officers/self. |
| 6 | Supporting Documents | 1. Copy of front page of pass book with photograph.<br>2. Copy of cancelled cheque leaf with depositor's name.<br>*Depositors/Nominees/Legal Heirs/PoA holders must submit the above documents duly attested by Notary/Gazetted Officers/self. |
| 7 | Original Bond /Other Substitute Documents issued | 1. Copy of front page of pass book with photograph.<br>2.<br>3. |

• Copy of front page of pass book with photograph means the pass book of such bank from where the money is transferred for investment in Sri Vasista Credit Souharda Sahakari ltd, Bangalore in point (1) of Sl. Nos. 1 to 7 above.
* Any application received after the last date fixed for submission of claims under Section 7(3) of the KPIDFE Act shall not be accepted under the provisions of the Act.
• Any claim based on concocted documents or forged documents shall be rejected and criminal action will be initiated against such applicants.
• As per Section 7(3) of KPID Act, the time limit for submission of claim applications is from 25.05.2023(Thursday) to 23.06.2023(Friday) from 10.00 A.M. to 05.30 P.M.
• For more information regarding the procedures for submission of applications, applicants may contact the Office of the Special Officer and Competent Authority, I.M.A. and other Fraud Cases, 4th Floor, Podium Block, Visvesvaraya Tower Buildings, Dr B.R. Ambedkar Road, Bangalore office in person or through https://sploca.karnataka.gov.in website. For more information call from 10.00 A.M. to 05.30 P.M. to the following telephone No. 080-22109665, or 080- 22109670.
• Applicants who have invested in more than one scheme in Sri Vasista Credit Souharda Sahakari Ltd, Bangalore, must submit the claims in separate applications.

Sd/-
Competent Authority of
Sri Vasista Credit Souharda Sahakari Ltd
and Joint Director of Co-operative Audit,
Head office,Bengaluru

No-2(7)/SriVasista/2022-23
DIPR/CP/097/Zen/2023-24

## THE ODISHA AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED

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MANAGING DIRECTOR

CAD-671: OIPR-01047/11/0013/2324

# Bengaluru girl Bhavana gets AIR 55 in Civil Service Exams

Many from other states who trained for CSE in various institutions in Bengaluru secure good scores this year

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Bengaluru resident H.S. Bhavana, currently an Indian Railways Traffic Service (IRTS) officer in Solapur, Maharashtra, has bagged an All India Rank (AIR) 55 in Civil Service Examination - 2022 and has emerged as a State topper.

Ms. Bhavana, a resident of Banashankari and an engineering graduate achieved this in her sixth attempt at cracking the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) exams. She got an AIR of 314 in 2018 and got placed as an IRTS officer and is currently working as an Assistant Operating Manager at Central Railway's Solapur division.

"Other than consistency, patience and hard work, there are no strategies for success. Various course materials, guidance by many CSE toppers and

H.S. Bhavana

Dr. Melvyn Varghese

getting training from various institutions does little help. Believe in yourself and never give up," Ms. Bhavana told *The Hindu*.

"I completed my schooling in Bishop Cotton Girls High School and got an engineering degree from Sri Venkateswara Engineering College, Yelahanka, Bengaluru. In the fourth attempt, I succeeded in cracking the CSE in 2018 and became an IRTS officer. In 2019 again I took the CSE and I faced viva, but did not succeed. In 2020 and 2021, I did not attempt any exams. But, in 2022 again I faced the CSE exams for the sixth time and got a good 55th rank. I hope that I get an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) post and I will opt for Karnataka," she said.

"I took up the 'Anthropology' subject in the main exam. I didn't get any training for either prelims, main exam or interview. I studied while working. We were friends and batch mates, conducting group studies and we used to solve the previous question papers. It was very helpful to me to get this rank," Ms. Bhavana explained.

**Second rank holder was trained in Bengaluru**

Meanwhile, many of those who hailed from other states but got trained for CSE in various institutions in Bengaluru have secured good scores this year.

Garima Lohia (AIR-2), was a part of Preliminary Exclusive Programme, an online programme from IAS BABA and she got interview guidance from Universal Coaching Center, Bengaluru. Kanika Goaya (AIR-9) was part of Interview Mentorship Program from IAS BABA and Abhinav Siwach (AIR-12) was IAS BABA's gurukul program, which caters to all stages of the exam (Prelims, Mains and Interview).

Around 60 candidates from the State were selected for UPSC services this year. There are 16 rank holders from IAS BABA institute, 23 ranks from Insights IAS, 11 ranks from Dr. Rajkumar Academy for Civil Services and around 10 ranks from Universal Coaching Centre were eligible for the CSE this year.

Another Bengaluru resident Dr. Melvyn Varghese has got an AIR 155 this year. A medical graduate from Mysore Medical College, Mr. Melvyn secured a rank of AIR of 118 last year and he is already an IPS officer of Delhi cadre.

He will not be taking a seat this time and is likely to make an attempt again next year for IAS. "I started preparing for CSE six to seven years ago. As a doctor, I saw a lot of people dying from developmental issues. You see issues like poverty and malnutrition and feel civil servants can help in a lot of ways to fix this. I did a lot of online research on what the exam demands, and I firmly believe in consistency," he said.

# Women athletes from State show solidarity with protesting wrestlers

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

In a show of solidarity with protesting wrestlers, All India Mahila Samskruthik Sanghathan (AIMSS) held a State-level convention on Tuesday. The wrestlers have been protesting at Jantar Mantar in Delhi against instances of alleged sexual assault by National Federation Chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

Reeth Abraham, an athlete, and former Asian medallist in long jump said, "It is sad to see women wrestlers protesting demanding justice. I am also disappointed with the stand taken by former athlete and Rajya Sabha member P.T. Usha."

Ms. Abraham said there is no difference between the days when she entered sports and the present scenario as there still dearth of women athletes. They also face discrimination and sexual assault.

Members of All India Mahila Samskruthika Sangatane staged a protest supporting women wrestlers fighting against sexual harassment at UVCE Alumni building at K.R. Circle in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Ashwini Nachappa, a former track and field athlete said, "There needs to be a robust mechanism in the filed of sports to address issues related to assault. Our prayers and support are with the wrestlers."

Pallavi Akkurati, IAS officer who attended the seminar, added that women in every field face problems due to gender bias. The women who come from privileged backgrounds manage to protest for justice while underprivileged will always remain in the closet.

Aparna B.R., president, AIMSS, highlighting the significance of protests said that the national wing of the AIMSS held a candlelight vigil and also took part in the ongoing protest at Jantar Mantar.

# ISRO to launch NVS-01 navigation satellite on May 29

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch the GSLV-F12/NVS-01 mission on Monday, May 29, at 10.42 a.m. from the second launch pad at SDSC-SHAR, Sriharikota, the space agency said.

"This Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) mission is designed to deploy the NVS-01 navigation satellite, weighing about 2232 kg, into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit. Subsequent orbit raising manoeuvres will be used for taking the satellite to the intended orbit," it said. NVS-01 is the first of the second-generation satellites envisaged for the Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) services. NVS series of satellites will sustain and augment the NavIC with enhanced features. This series incorporates L1 band signals additionally to widen the services.

The highlight of the May 29 launch is that for the first time, an indigenous atomic clock will be flown in NVS-01. To meet the positioning, navigation and timing requirements of the nation, ISRO has established a regional navigation satellite system called NavIC.

NavIC offers two services – Standard Position Service (SPS) for civilian users and Restricted Service (RS) for strategic users.

The GSLV-F12/NVS-01 mission is ISRO's fourth launch this year after the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) launch in February, LVM3 M3/OneWeb India-2 mission in March, and the PSLV-C55/TeLEOS-2 mission in April.

**How to view the launch**

ISRO also said that citizens can register at https://lvg.shar.gov.in to witness the launch from Launch View Gallery, SDSC-SHAR, Sriharikota.

# Disruption in power supply

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

There will be disruption in power supply on Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Jayanagar sub division.

Areas that will be affected are: 66 /11kV St. John Wood Substation. BTM 1st Stage, Gurappanapalya, Jai Bheem Nagar, Chocolate factory Road, Old Madiwala, BTM Layout, Bismillah Nagar, Bharathi Layout, Koramangala 2nd Block, Kudremukh Colony, CPWD Quarters, Siddhartha Colony, Tavarekere, S.G. Palya, Marauthinagar, Venkateswara College Road and Brundavana Nagara.

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B.Sc. Economics
( Economics, Statistics, Mathematics )

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BBA ( Aviation Management )
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M BG-BGE

# The tragedy of the axolotl mutant

Scientists are studying how this species of salamander quickly regenerates lost limbs, gills, tail, their eyes, and even parts of the head; by understanding how axolotls do this, we might gather clues on how to increase our own chances of doing the same

D.P. Kasbekar

EXPLAINER

Anyone who has suffered the misfortune of an amputation, and others with the imagination to conceive of such a horrible loss, might wish humans shared the famed ability of the Mexican axolotl (*Ambystoma mexicanum*) to regenerate their limbs.

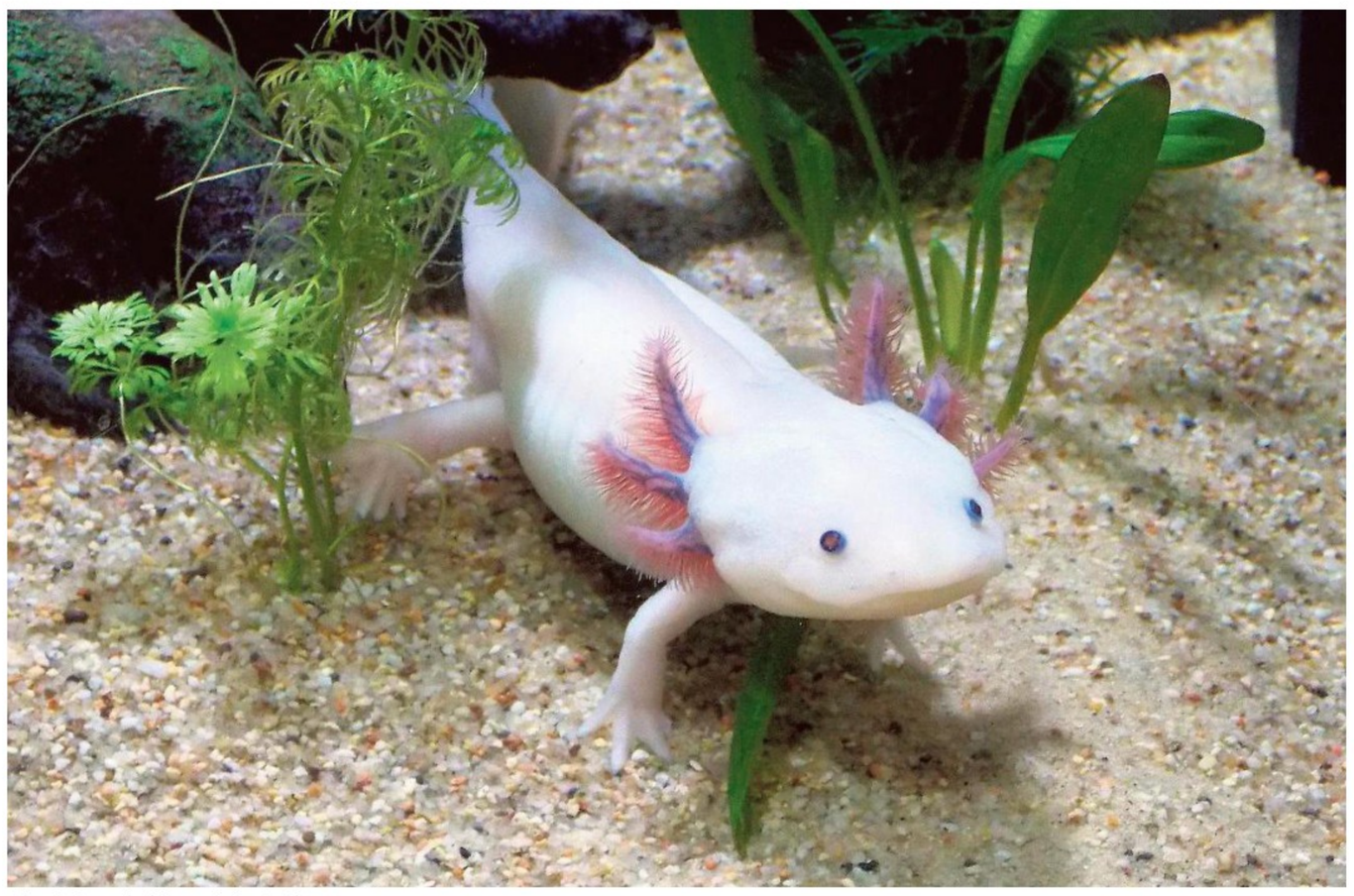
The axolotl is a species of salamander (lizard-like amphibians) originally found in Lake Xochimilco, near Mexico City. Sadly, they are now almost extinct in the wild. Their gene pool survives among individuals bred in captivity for the pet trade and for aquaria.

Even though they are amphibians, axolotls remain aquatic throughout their lives. In 1965, the American biologist Rufus R. Humphrey wrote:

"The common name, 'axolotl', of Aztec origin, has been variously interpreted as 'water dog', 'water twin', 'water sprite', or 'water slave'. The last interpretation ("slave of the water") is in one sense particularly appropriate: Since the Mexican axolotl does not ... become adapted to a terrestrial existence, it must spend its life in water, in contrast with its many relatives of the genus *Ambystoma*."

Today, a small number of scientists study how axolotls manage to quickly regenerate lost limbs, gills, tail, even their eyes, and parts of the head.

The hope for such research is that by understanding how axolotls regenerate lost body parts, we might gather clues on how to increase our own chances of doing the same thing.



A leucistic axolotl in captivity, April 2, 2017. LADAMEBUCOLIQUE

## The mutant

In the mid-1960s, Dr. Humphrey mated a pair of sibling axolotls in his laboratory at Indiana University, Bloomington. The mating produced larvae that crowded the laboratory glass bowl – and began to "chew each other's legs off", in Dr. Humphrey's words. He noticed that one-quarter of the larvae that had lost their limbs failed to properly regenerate the chewed legs.

Dr. Humphrey isolated the poor regenerators, grew them to maturity, and mated them. He found that the males were sterile while the females produced eggs that failed to develop, even if they were fertilised by sperm from normal males. In 1966, he hypothesised that both members of the original brother-sister pair carried a mutation in one copy of a gene that he called *o* (for "ova deficient"). The other copy of the gene was functional, however.

Axolotls, like humans, contain two copies of every gene – one inherited from the father and the other from the mother. The cell created as a result of an axolotl sperm fertilising an axolotl egg is called a zygote. The zygotes develop into larvae, which go on to become adults.

Dr. Humphrey found that half of the sperm made by the male in the brother-sister pair carried the *o* mutation, as did half of the eggs from the female. Consequently, 25% of the fertilisation (i.e. ½ x ½) involved the fusion of a mutant sperm and a mutant egg. The resulting zygotes lacked a functional copy of the *o* gene, and developed to become poor limb regenerators.

Later, these axolotls become sterile males and females whose eggs did not develop after fertilisation.

This meant that the *o* gene coded for something that axolotls needed to develop normally as well as to regenerate damaged or absent appendages.

In the remaining 75% of fertilisations, the sperm, the egg, or both contained the non-mutated version of the *o* gene. The products of these fertilisations subsequently developed into normal larvae that regenerated injured limbs and turned into fertile adults.

## A mystery component

Another American scientist named Robert W. Briggs confirmed Dr. Humphrey's findings. In 1972, Dr. Briggs found that he could correct the developmental defect of a mutant axolotl female's eggs by injecting them with a sap drawn from the eggs of normal females. He then fertilised the mutant eggs with sperm from male axolotls that carried one mutated and one functional copy of the *o* gene.

> The common name, 'axolotl', of Aztec origin, has been variously interpreted as 'water dog', 'water twin', 'water sprite', or 'water slave':
> Rufus Humphrey

All the resulting zygotes responded equally at first, and grew to an advanced developmental stage. But at this point, 50% of the zygotes that contained no functional copy of the *o* gene stopped developing further. The other 50%, which contained one functional copy of the *o* gene from the father, continued to develop. This indicated to Dr. Briggs that the father's copy of the *o* gene did not have an effect on the zygote's early development, but began to do so in more advanced stages. Instead, in the early stages, the zygote depended on the *o* gene product deposited by the mother in her eggs. Or – as in Dr. Briggs's experiment – in the sap transferred from normal eggs.

Remarkably, even the sap from the nuclei of frog eggs worked.

## Tragedy strikes

Given that the product of the *o* gene was required for normal development and to regenerate damaged appendages, the next step was to identify the component of the sap that essentially 'rescued' mutant eggs. A later step would be to test the component's effects on wound-healing and regeneration in humans.

Unfortunately, maintaining the *o* mutation turned out to be hard. The mutant's effect was discernible only in individuals that lacked a functional copy of the *o* gene. But such individuals were sterile and did not produce progeny. So the researchers needed to fall back on sibling individuals that contained one functional and one mutant gene copy. But these individuals were indistinguishable from those with two functional copies and no mutant copy.

As a result, researchers had to set up multiple sibling matings in each generation, find broods such that 25% were poor regenerators, and then set up new sibling matings to produce the next generation.

Generation after generation of sibling mating results in increasingly inbred individuals that begin to develop other abnormalities. Eventually, tragedy struck. The *o* mutant was lost before the analytical tools required to zero into the sap component became available. This rendered the wonderful papers of Dr. Humphrey and Dr. Briggs effectively scientifically worthless.

Today, regenerative biologists may be willing to figuratively give an arm to rediscover it.

*(The author is a retired scientist.)*

## THE GIST

In the mid-1960s, Dr. Humphrey mated a pair of sibling axolotls in his laboratory at Indiana University, Bloomington. The mating produced larvae that crowded the laboratory glass bowl – and began to "chew each other's legs off", in Dr. Humphrey's words. He noticed that one-quarter of the larvae that had lost their limbs failed to properly regenerate the chewed legs.

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## BIG SHOT

A kelp forest in the Chilean coastal area of Chiloe, about 1,400 km south of Santiago. Chile's Patagonia is home to the largest continuous kelp forest in the world. They are crucial for battling climate change, yet more than half of them around the world have been destroyed by human activity. ANDY MANN/ MISSION BLUE NGO

## QUESTION CORNER

# Fridge that heats

*Balasundaram T.V., Chennai*

**Q: Can a fridge, left open in a closed room, be used to cool the room?**

**A:** No. Instead it will heat the room.

Under normal circumstances, the heat from inside the fridge is taken out by the compressor and let out in the air behind the fridge. As a result, the space inside is cooled.

If the fridge is kept open in a closed room, the dullness coming out through the front door of the fridge is cancelled by the heated air coming from behind.

Apart from this, in any electrical appliance, a part of the electricity supplied is wasted as heat because of the principles of thermodynamics. This heat will raise the temperature of air inside the room.

*(From The Hindu archives)*

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

**For feedback and suggestions** for 'Science', please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Science'

# With govt. putting off new projects, citizens hope Sankey Road flyover is scrapped

The Sadashivanagar police booked about 70 citizens for marching against the project in February 2023

**Shreyas H.S**
BENGALURU

It may be recalled that after stiff opposition by citizens, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike withdrew the letter seeking permission from its forest wing to axe trees for the project. FILE PHOTO

With the State government ordering putting off the commencement of new projects approved by the previous regime, citizens opposing the proposed construction of Sankey Tank-bund road widening and flyover are hoping that the project will be cancelled.

It may be recalled that after stiff opposition by citizens, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) withdrew the letter seeking permission from its forest wing to axe trees for the same. The BBMP later sent the Detailed Project Report (DPR) to Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority (BMLTA) which is led by the Chief Minister. The authority has about 21 members.

The then Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai-led BJP government had approved building of 11 flyovers for which it came under severe criticism. The flyovers were proposed at Minerva Circle, Ittamadu Junction, Sarakki Signal, Nayandahalli-Tumakuru Road stretch, Sankey Road, Hosur Road near Forum Mall and St John's Hospital, Yelahanka and Hoodi. A BBMP official said all these projects will be now be reviewed again.

As per the DPR, a four-lane bi-directional flyover 560 meters long from 6th Cross Road to Bashyam Circle is to be built widening Sankey Tank Bund Road towards Malleswaram 18th Cross. The project cost is estimated to be around ₹60 crore. To mark their resistance against the project, about 22,000 citizens signed an online petition, while many children wrote to Mr. Bommai. It may also be recalled that the Sadashivanagar police booked about 70 citizens for marching against the project in February 2023.

Preeti Sunderajan, an activist opposing the project, said the Congress had supported their view when they protested. The Congress manifesto promised to implement people-centric road infrastructure projects and not vehicle-centric. "Going by the manifesto, we are hopeful that the new government will not scrap just the Sankey infrastructure plan but also other flyover projects," Ms. Sunderrajan said, adding that the citizens are now planning to meet Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to press him to bin these projects.

Srinivas Alavilli, a citizen activist said while it is usual for any new government to pause new projects and review them, this has come as an opportunity for the citizens to put forth their opinion or reservation about the projects. "The Congress had promised a comprehensive infrastructure plan considering all the factors in its vision document and with programmes coming under the review, the government may take the right decision including at Sankey Road," he said.

B.S. Prahlad, Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure), BBMP, speaking to *The Hindu* said these projects including Sankey Tank were temporarily halted and in all likelihood the government may give its nod again after review. The flyovers are proposed after a scientific study and structures will help decongest traffic.

# Man ends life in prison

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A prisoner was found dead in the washroom of a barrack in Parappana Agrahara prison recently.

The deceased, Sunil, was arrested in a murder case reported in Kaggalipura three years ago and was in prison since then. He was found by the security personnel hanging from the ventilator with a shoelace.

The police have taken up a case of unnatural death and was awaiting post mortem report to ascertain the cause of death.

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# XPoSat user meet tomorrow to be broadcast live by ISRO on Facebook

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A user meet for X-ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat), India's polarimetry mission aimed at studying various dynamics of astronomical sources in extreme conditions is scheduled to be held on Thursday. The meet will be streamed live from the ISRO Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ISRO and ISRO website https://www.isro.gov.in.

XPoSat will carry two scientific payloads, Polarimeter Instrument in X-rays (POLIX) and X-ray Spectroscopy and Timing (SPECT) in a low Earth orbit.

POLIX payload will enable the measurement of polarimetry parameters such as the degree and angle of polarization in the medium X-ray energy range of 8-30 keV photons originating from astronomical sources.

SPECT payload will provide valuable timing and spectroscopic information within the energy range of 0.8-15 keV of X-ray photons.

"Astronomical sources, including black holes, neutron stars, active galactic nuclei, and pulsar wind nebulae, present complex emission mechanisms that challenge the current understanding. Polarimetry measurements offer an excellent diagnostic tool for comprehending the emission processes from various astronomical sources," ISRO said.

The space agency added that by combining polarimetric observations with spectroscopic and timing measurements, researchers anticipate overcoming the limitations of present understanding of astronomical emission processes. ISRO said that the XPoSat User Meet aims to gather experts, including key astronomers and researchers from the country, to engage in discussions and plan scientific investigations and to foster collaborations to be enabled by this unique mission.

# BBMP contractors slam decision to freeze bill payments

**Shreyas H.S.**
BENGALURU

The State government's decision to freeze payments of bills for all ongoing and completed works of various departments has now infuriated Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) contractors whose payments have been pending since 2021.

It should be noted that, the allegations of previous Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) government demanding 40% commission to clear bills was picked up by the Congress as one of the key poll planks in the recently concluded Assembly elections in the State.

**In the normal course**

Terming the decision of the new government "unfair", BBMP contractors said the move would further deteriorate their financial plight. However, Congress leaders maintained that this action is normal recourse when any new government is formed.

K. T. Manjunath, president, BBMP Contractors' Association, speaking to *The Hindu* said over 1,000 contractors were affected by this decision and their debts have been mounting. Under the previous government, the alleged 40% commission drained the pockets but now the hopes of recovery after a new government assumed office is also wearing thin, he rued. Mr. Manjunath said the association will seek an appointment with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to request him to withdraw the order failing which contractors will stage a protest in the city.

Tushar Giri Nath, Chief Commissioner, BBMP, said since May 6, payments were withheld for election purposes. Now with the government notification, this would continue until further orders. Mr. Giri Nath said that the bills of completed works in 2021 which comes about ₹400 to 450 crore is still to be paid and ₹600-650 crore that was received by the BBMP from the State government under Amrit Nagarothana Scheme recently was also withheld. Many ongoing works also come under the same.

**'Will assure contractors'**

Ramalinga Reddy, Congress leader and BTM Layout MLA, said withholding of payments is usual business whenever a new government is formed. After reviewing the works and completing other procedures, payments will be made. Mr Reddy said, "I will talk to the BBMP contractors and assure them that payments will be released soon."

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| WEDNESDAY, MAY. 24 | |
| RISE | 05:53 SET 18:40 |
| RISE | 09:39 SET 22:55 |
| THURSDAY, MAY. 25 | |
| RISE | 05:53 SET 18:40 |
| RISE | 10:31 SET 23:39 |
| FRIDAY, MAY. 26 | |
| RISE | 05:53 SET 18:41 |
| RISE | 11:22 SET 00:00 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 35 | 26 |
| Mysuru | 33 | 20 |
| Bengaluru | 32 | 21 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**34°C** The weather will be warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**33°C** Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

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# Rowdy killed

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A rowdy-sheeter was hacked to death in a drunken brawl at K.P. Agarahara on Monday night. Sagar, 23, a cab driver, had multiple criminal cases pending against him. He was rowdy-sheeter in K.P. Agarahara, the police said.

On Monday evening, Sagar was home and stepped out after receiving a phone call stating that he was going to meet his friends and returnsoon. His mother Yashodha called him and he said he would be home soon. He was at a liquor party with another rowdy Vale Naveen and his associates. Arguments ensued over getting more liquor and Naveen and gang allegedly attacked Sagar with lethal weapons and fled Passers-by took Sagar to the hospital where he succumbed to death.

Based on plaint, the police have taken up a case of murder and efforts are on to track down the others.

THE HINDU
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GENERAL

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(iv) Additional General Manager (E-6)– Finance – 01 Post (UR)
(v) Deputy General Manager (E-5) [Fixed Term]– Technical – 02 Posts (UR)
(vi) Senior Manager (E-4)– Finance – 01 Post (UR)
(vii) Senior Manager (E-4)– Technical – 02 Posts (UR-01, SC-01)
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GENERAL

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# Text&Context

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

**The number of days after which water will run out in Montevideo**

**10** According to officials, the water deficit in Uruguay is the worst in 74 years. It is also affecting supply to thousands of households and leading to poor water quality. REUTERS

**A new peak reached by Japan's Nikkei stock exchange on Monday**

**31,000** Nikkei reached its highest peak in 33 years. An economy showing signs of sustained recovery has pushed the surge to decade highs. REUTERS

**Russia's energy exports to China are set to grow this year**

**40** In percentage. Moscow seeks to deepen ties with Beijing in the face of Western sanctions. Russia's gas exports plummeted in 2022 after a flurry of Western sanctions over Moscow's offensive in Ukraine. AFP

**The amount raised by countries through global carbon pricing**

**95** In $ billion. While countries have been charging firms for emitting carbon dioxide, the prices are still too low to drive changes needed to meet Paris Accord targets, the World Bank said in a report. REUTERS

**GQG Partners raise their stake in Adani's conglomerate**

**10** In percentage. The value of GQG in Adani holdings is close to $3.5 billion. GQG Partners in March invested $1.87 billion across Adani enterprises and other units. REUTERS

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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# The Telangana- A.P. water dispute

How did the Bachawat Tribunal allocate water resources to the three riparian States? What did the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, state about water shares? Has the Union government intervened in the issue? Why is Telangana asking for a larger share?

EXPLAINER

B. Chandrashekhar

**The story so far:**

The nagging dispute over the water share of the Krishna river between Andhra Pradesh (A.P.) and Telangana remains unresolved, even nine years after the bifurcation of the combined State.

**What is the origin of the Krishna water dispute?**

The dispute dates back to the formation of Andhra Pradesh in November, 1956. Before the formation of Andhra Pradesh, four senior leaders each from different regions of Andhra, including the Rayalaseema Region and the Telangana region, signed a Gentlemen's Agreement on February 20, 1956. Among others, one of the provisions of the agreement was the protection of Telangana's interests and needs with respect to the utilisation of water resources with equitable distribution based on treaties followed globally. However, the focus of the combined dispensation with respect to irrigation facilities was on Andhra, which already had systems developed by the British at the cost of in-basin drought-prone areas in Telangana – a fact which was argued by the leaders of the latter region from the beginning.

Further on, in 1969, the Bachawat Tribunal (KWDT-I) was constituted to settle the dispute around water share among the riparian States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh (before bifurcation). The Tribunal allocated 811 tmcft dependable water to Andhra Pradesh. The A.P. government later apportioned it in the 512:299 tmcft ratio between Andhra (including parts of Rayalaseema which comprise the Krishna Basin) and Telangana, respectively, based on the command area developed or utilisation mechanism established by then. The Tribunal had also recommended taking the Tungabhadra Dam ( a part of the Krishna Basin) water to the drought-prone Mahabubnagar area of Telangana. However, this was not followed through, giving birth to discontent among the people. Telangana had time and again reiterated how it had been meted out with injustice in Andhra Pradesh when it came to the matter of distributing water resources.

**No agreement:** The surplus water being discharged from the Prakasam Barrage across river Krishna in Vijayawada. RAO G. N.

**What was the arrangement for water sharing after the bifurcation?**

There is no mention of water shares in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, since the KWDT-I Award, which was still in force, had not made any region-wise allocation. At a meeting convened by the then Ministry of Water Resources in 2015, the two States had agreed for sharing water in the 34:66 (Telangana:A.P.) ratio as an ad hoc arrangement with the minutes clearly specifying that it has to be reviewed every year. The arrangement in the Act was only for the management of water resources by setting up two Boards, the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) and the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB).

The KRMB, however, continued the same ratio year after year in spite of the opposition by Telangana. In October 2020, Telangana raised its voice for an equal share, till water shares are finalised. At a Board meeting held earlier this month, Telangana put its foot down for an equal share and refused to continue the existing arrangement. Unable to convince the member States, the river Board has referred the matter to the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS).

**What does each State claim?**

Telangana has been asking the Centre to finalise water shares from day one of its formation. Citing treaties and agreements followed globally in sharing river waters, Telangana has been arguing that as per the basin parameters, it is entitled for at least a 70% share in the allocation of the 811 tmcft. Besides, it has been highlighting how A.P. has been diverting about 300 tmcft water to the areas outside the basin from fluoride-affected and drought-prone areas within the basin in Telangana.

On the other hand, A.P. has also been staking claim for a higher share of water to protect the interests of command areas already developed.

**What is the stand of the Centre?**

The Centre has convened two meetings of the Apex Council comprising the Union Minister and Chief Ministers of Telangana and A.P. in 2016 and 2020 without making any attempt to deal with the issue. Following a suggestion made by the MoJS in 2020, Telangana has withdrawn its petition over the issue in the Supreme Court as the Ministry had assured to refer the matter of water shares to a Tribunal. However, the Centre has been sitting over the issue for over two years now even as the two States continue to spar over the matter day in and day out.

### THE GIST

- In 1969, the Bachawat Tribunal was constituted to settle the dispute around water share among the riparian States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh (before bifurcation). The Tribunal allocated 811 tmcft dependable water to Andhra Pradhesh. The A.P. government later apportioned it in the 512:299 tmcft ratio between Andhra and Telangana.
- Telangana had time and again reiterated how it had been meted out with injustice in Andhra Pradesh when it came to the matter of distributing water resources.
- The Centre has convened two meetings of the Apex Council comprising the Union Minister and Chief Ministers of Telangana and A.P. in 2016 and 2020, without making any attempt to deal with the issue.

# What is the EU's carbon border adjustment mechanism?

What is carbon leakage? How will the new policy affect trade between India and the EU?

Saptaparno Ghosh

**The story so far:**

On May 10, co-legislators at the European Commission signed the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). It has been described as a "landmark tool" to put a "fair price on the carbon emitted during the production of carbon intensive goods that are entering the EU, and to encourage cleaner industrial production in non-EU countries."

**What is the CBAM?**

Its primary objective is to avert 'carbon leakage'. It refers to a phenomenon where a EU manufacturer moves carbon-intensive production to countries outside the region with less stringent climate policies. In other words, replace EU-manufactured products with more carbon-intensive imports.

From 2026, once the CBAM is fully implemented, importers in the EU would have to buy carbon certificates corresponding to the payable carbon price of the import had the product been produced in the continent, under its carbon pricing rules. Conversely, if a non-EU producer is paying a price (or tax) for carbon used to produce the imported goods, back home or in some other country, the corresponding cost would be deducted for the EU importer. The Commission, in coordination with relevant authorities of the member states, would be responsible for reviewing and verifying declarations as well as managing the central platform for the sale of CBAM certificates. Importers would have to annually declare by May-end the quantity and embedded emissions in the goods imported into the region in the preceding year.

The idea here is to avert the possibility of carbon leakage alongside encouraging producers in non-EU countries to green their manufacturing processes. Moreover, it will ensure a level playing field between imports and EU products. This would also form part of the continent's broader European Green Deal which endeavours to achieve 55% reduction in carbon emissions compared to 1990 levels by 2030 and become a climate neutral continent by 2050.

**Why are countries worried?**

CBAM would initially apply to imports of certain goods and selected precursors, whose production is carbon-intensive and are at risk of 'leakage' such as the cement, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilizers, electricity and hydrogen sectors.

In 2021, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) had concluded that Russia, China and Turkey were most exposed to the mechanism. Considering the level of exports to the union in these sectors, it stated India, Brazil and South Africa would be most affected among the developing countries. Mozambique would be the most exposed least-developing country. Important to note, countries in the EU combined represent about 14% of India's export mix for all products, steel and aluminium included.

Mannat Jaspal, Associate Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) notes that India's exports in the five segments represented less than 2% of the total exports to the EU between 2019 and 2021. However, according to Ms. Jaspal, while the impact of the regulation may appear limiting, its long-term effects can be severe for multiple factors. First, EU being India's third largest trade partner and given the latter's projected growth trajectories, the size of exports (including in the CBAM sectors) will invariably rise. Secondly, CBAM's scope would expand beyond its current ambit to include other sectors as well. "Given India's products have a higher carbon intensity than its European counterparts, the carbon tariffs imposed will be proportionally higher making Indian exports substantially uncompetitive," she told *The Hindu*. And finally, international climate policies (including CBAM) will compel other countries to impose similar regulation eventually translating to "a significant impact" on India's trading relationships and balance of payments.

It was informed, earlier this month. in a joint statement during the inaugural EU-India Trade and Technology Council, that "the two sides have also agreed to intensify their engagement on carbon border measures."

### THE GIST

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- Its primary objective is to avert 'carbon leakage'. It refers to a phenomenon where a EU manufacturer moves carbon-intensive production to countries outside the region with less stringent climate policies.
- CBAM would initially apply to imports of certain goods and selected precursors, whose production is carbon-intensive and are at risk of 'leakage' such as the cement, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilizers, electricity and hydrogen sectors.

# Chinese firm to supply Namma Metro coaches after 4-year delay

The Chinese company had won a ₹1,578-crore contract in 2019, but failed to supply the trains since the company had failed to set up a manufacturing plant in India. FILE PHOTO

## These coaches will be included in the newly-opened K.R. Puram to Whitefield metro line

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Nearly four years after bagging a contract to supply Namma Metro coaches, China-based company China Railway Rolling Stock Corporation will finally supply two trains by August this year. These coaches will be included in the newly opened K.R. Puram to Whitefield metro line, according to officials.

The Chinese company had won a ₹1,578-crore contract in 2019, but failed to supply the trains since the company had failed to set up a manufacturing plant in India. The company was to supply 216 metro coaches to Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL). A senior official confirmed the development on the supply of the coaches by the firm in August. "Two sets of 6-coach trains will be supplied by the company by August this year; the remaining coaches will be supplied by the company phase by phase to the BMRCL," an official added.

Earlier, the BMRCL had issued several notices to the China Railway Rolling Stock Corporation and threatened to encash its bank guarantee of ₹372 crore. The China-based company now has a tie up with the Kolkata-based Titagarh Wagons which will supply remaining coaches starting in September. "The CRRSC has entered into an MoU with an Indian company to manufacture the coaches. We are expecting to receive these new coaches starting September. These coaches will be operated on the R.V. Road - Bommasandra line," a official said.

The R.V. Road - Bommasandra line of Namma metro is likely to be operational by December 2023 which is a 19-km stretch of the elevated Yellow Line would benefit lakhs of people especially techies working in Electronics City.

### Cause of delay

According to officials, the supply was delayed by the Chinese company since the rule which says 75% of the manufacturing should happen in India under the Make in India initiative. The company faced challenges to find a local manufacturer under the Make in India initiative. Apart from this, according to officials COVID-19 pandemic also impacted the manufacturing of the coaches.

All these factors led China Railway Rolling Stock Corporation to partner with Kolkata-based Titagarh Wagons to manufacture and supply the coaches. Currently, the BMRCL operates 57 trains of 342 coaches in both the Purple and Green lines of Namma Metro

# Four arrested for stealing 72 bikes

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Bommanahalli police busted an inter-State bike theft racket, arrested a gang of four and recovered 72 two-wheelers worth ₹1.2 crore.

The accused according to C.K. Baba, DCP, South East Division, said that the modus operandi of the accused was to come from Tamil Nadu by bus, recce residential areas to identify bikes parked outside houses and steal them.

The accused then would ride back to their native place and sell the bikes to their contacts in rural areas without documents.

Based on a series of bike thefts, a team of police officials stepped up vigil and zeroed in on the accused while they were riding the stolen bikes. The team chased the accused and pinned them down at the border of the city.

Based on the information, the police recovered 72 bikes from the various parts of Tamil Nadu which they had sold it to their contacts.

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Tel.: (0674) 2570687, Email : oaicho@orissaagro.com; Website : odishaagro.nic.in
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**
Sealed EOI in prescribed format are invited from Electrical contractor having valid HT license issued by ELBO & valid civil license / Joint venture with civil license registered within the State issued by PWD/ PHED/ RWSS/ Irrigation / M.I. Deptt./ Rural works for **"Installation of Cluster Shallow tube well with engergisation"**. For details please visit our website **odishaagro.nic.in**. The detail tender documents will be available in the office of undersigned from **dt.24.05.2023 to dt.07.06.2023 up to 3.00 P.M.** on payment of **Rs.10,000/-** GST @18% per set or else the documents can also be downloaded from our website and the documents should be enclosed with a DD for **Rs.11800/-** in favour of The Managing Director, OAIC Ltd. from any Nationalized Bank payable at Bhubaneswar. The last date of submission of quotation document is **dt.07.06.2023 up to 5.00P.M**. The undersigned reserves the right to accept/reject any/all application (s) without assigning any reasons thereof.
Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR
CAD-672: OIPR-01047/11/0015/2324

**ODISHA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022
CIN:U40102OR2004SGC007553
**E-TENDER NOTICE NO.-CPC-05/2023-24**
Tenders are invited in e-tendering mode only for Enlistment of firms/contractors in works rate contract for execution of emergency and normal works pertaining to 400kV,220kV,132kV and 33kV Substation & Transmission lines as per tender specification.
Complete set of bidding documents are available at **www.tenderwizard.com/OPTCL** and **www.optcl.co.in** from **24.05.2023 (12:00 Hrs)** to **16.06.2023 (12:00 Hrs)**.
Sd/-
SGM (C.P.C)
HIPR-13/2023-24 OIPR-04011/11/0035/2324
CAD-184
/optcl.odisha /optcl_odisha

Government of Karnataka
Karnataka Forest Department
**Office of The Chief Conservator of Forests, Working Plan and Survey, Shivamogga**
e-Tender Notice No.: WPSS/A2/CAMPA -tender/CR-10/2023-24 Date: 19.05.2023
**Through e-procurement**
Short-Term Re e-Tenders are invited through e-procurement for implementation of the work of "Re-Survey and Demarcation of Notified Forest by providing and Fixing RCC Pillars and formation of Cairns" in notified forest areas of various zones of Mangaluru, Kundapura, Sagar, and Kudremukha Wild Life Divisions for the year 2023-24, for 17 works of total approx. amount of Rs. 222.21729 lakhs. Interested, eligible Forest Contractors can submit tenders within 4.30 PM on 29.05.2023. Can participate in the tender by confirming the details as published in the e-Administration Center or in www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in For more information this office can be contacted during office hours on Phone No.: 08182-250785.
**Sd/-Deputy Conservator of Forests and Technical Assistant to Conservator of Forests**
**Working Plan and Survey, Shivamogga.**
DIPR/smg/No.31/05/KSMCA/23-24/30

**BANGALORE MYSORE INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR AREA PLANNING AUTHORITY**
No.5, 2nd Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560009.
Phone: 080-22341230/35 E-mail: bmicapa@gmail.com
No. BMICAPA/CLU-03/04/2023-24 Date: 22.05.2023
**PUBLIC NOTICE**
**[UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961]**
Sri Mukthar Ahamed, Managing Director, M/s Ahad Builders Pvt Ltd have applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture"** Zone to **"Residential"** purpose under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961, pertaining Sy.No: 38 Extent 04 Acre-21Guntas of Belavadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Srirangapatna Taluk, Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following;
1. By developing the layout in the above said lands, the poor and middle class people will get the sites for reasonable price.
2. During the development works of the layout there will be opportunity of employment for labours and un employees.
3. Surrounding areas will be developed by developing the layout in the above said lands.
4. By planned layout the public are benefited with the Civic amenities such as good Roads, Parks etc.,

Objection, if any, are invited from the public, any person may file his/her objection to Member Secretary, BMICAPA, Bengaluru in writing to the above address mentioned in this publication within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Any objection received after 15 days will not be considered.
**Sd/- Member Secretary, BMICAPA, Bangalore.**
DIPR/CP/JA/099/2023-24

**ERODE CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**
Erode City Municipal Corporation invites tender through E-tendering system from eligible tenderers for "**the selection of service provider/ agency/contractor/company for implementation of solid waste management activities in ERODE CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION for three years**". The Bidder shall submit the tender in online through E- tendering website **https://tntenders.gov.in** upto **03.00 P.M** (as per the time in the server clock of the tender portal) on **26/06/2023**. The tenders will be opened through online at **3.30 P.M**. on **27/06/2023.**

| Sl. No. | Name of work | Approximate value of tender (Rs in Lakhs) | E.M.D in Rs. | Contract Period |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | The Selection of Service Provider / Agency / Contractor / Company for Implementation of Solid Waste Management activities in Erode City Municipal Corporation | 4360.87 Per year | Rs. 43,60,870.00 (1% of Estimated Cost) | 3 (Three years) |

1. The Service Provider/ Agency/Contractor/ Company should necessarily satisfy the Qualification criteria specified in the Tender document to qualify for award of the contract.
2. The tender documents shall be made available from **26/05/2023**. The tender document can be downloaded from the website : **https://tntenders.gov.in** at free of cost. The intending tenderer shall log in, into the website: **https://tntenders.gov.in** and download tender documents upto **15:00 hours** on **26/06/2023** by using their digital signature certificate. Tenders through E-submission shall only be accepted. However, the tenderers shall be solely responsible for check the websites for any Addendum / Corrigendum/ Clarification issued by the undersigned subsequently related to the tender. The eligibility criteria and other terms and conditions shall be followed strictly as per the tender documents.
3. Earnest money deposit (EMD) should be submitted online through payment gateway provided in the E-tendering website. In case of any problem in making payment through online, the EMD in scanned form along with technical bid and the original should be sent to the Commissioner prior to the time of opening of technical bid. Demand draft should be drawn in any Nationalized or scheduled bank in the name of "The Commissioner, Erode City Municipal Corporation" payable at Erode.
4. A two cover system shall be followed in which first cover contains "Technical Bid" and the second cover will consist of "Financial bid" only.
5. A pre-bid meeting the above tender will be held on **07/06/2023** at **11:00 AM** hours in the Office of the Erode City Municipal Corporation at the address mentioned below.

Any clarifications regarding E-tendering the tenderers can contact the following address : **The Commissioner, Erode City Municipal Corporation, 246, Meenakshi Sundaranar Salai, Erode - 638-001. E-mail : commr.erode@tn.gov.in Telephone Number: 0424-2251618.**
DIPR/2712/Tender/2023 Commissioner,
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்." Erode City Municipal Corporation

**Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)**
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751 001
Tel.:(0674) 2380608; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in
Email: proc.osmcl.od@nic.in
Assuring Quality, Saving Lives
Notification No. 3326/OSMCL/2023 Date : 17.05.2023
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF DIGITAL HEMOGLOBINOMETER DEVICE WITH COMPATIBLE TEST STRIPS/CUVETTES ON RATE CONTRACT BASIS**
**Online Bids** through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for supply, training & demonstration of Equipments as per the particulars mentioned below:

| Sl. | Bid Reference No. | Item Name | Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | OSMCL/2023-24/Hemoglobinometer Device_Test Strip/01 | Rate Contract for Supply of Digital Hemoglobinometer Device with Compatible Test Strips/Cuvettes | 5,900/- |

| Sl. No. | Particulars | Date and time | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Date & time of release of bid | 23/05/2023, 3 PM | |
| 2. | Date & time of Pre-Bid Meeting | 29/05/2023, 3.00 PM<br>Venue : Conference Hall, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar | |
| 3. | Date & time of Online bid submission | Start Date & Time<br>06/06/2023, 3 PM | End Date & Time<br>26/06/2023, 5 PM |
| 4. | Date & time of online Technical Bid Opening | 28/06/2023, 3 PM | |
| 5. | Date of opening of Price Bid | To be informed to the qualified bidders | |

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** . The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.
**By the order of Managing Director, OSMCL**
**Sd/- GM Operation (Equipment), OSMCL, Odisha**
CAD-680 OIPR-10112/11/0005/2324

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder
Call our toll-free number 1800 102 1878
Or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in
Scan the QR code to register your feedback
THE HINDU businessline. FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR The Hindu Young World THE HINDU

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our clients **Mr. ANTONY PAUL VINOTH S/o Mr. G T Robert and his wife Mrs.CATHERINE and Mr.M.MUNIYAPPA S/o Sri. Chikka Muniramaiah and Mr. M SHANKAR S/o Mr. Muniswamy and Mr. J RAVI S/o Mr. Jaganadhan** are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mr. PRATAP SINGH S/o Mr. Shyam Singh,** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client/s shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.
**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**
**All that piece and parcel of the residential site No. 16, in Property No.551, situated at Kalkere Village, K.R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 47+44/2 feet, in all measuring 1820 square feet, presently coming under the BBMP limits and bounded on the:**
**East by : Site No. 15, West by : Site No. 17, North by :28 Feet Road, South by: Private Property**
**C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES**
**Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN** M.A., L.L.B.
**Advocates & Legal Consultants**
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 9108784843

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
My client, **Smt. S. PADMAJA, W/o. Sri. Shree Ram Shetty,** aged about 59 years, residing at No. 15, Sri Sai Krupa, 6th cross, Avalahalli Byatarayanapura, Mysore Road, Bengaluru, on 16/05/2023, has lost the below mentioned original documents.
**1. Gift deed** dt: 22/08/2008, registered as Document No. BSK-1-2688/2008-09, of Book No.1 and stored in C.D. No. BSKD27.
**2. Sale deed** dt: 06/12/1999, registered as Document No.KNGR-1-07849/1999-2000, of Book No. 1.
While getting the Xerox of the original documents and the said original documents are misplaced in the Xerox shop near Avalahalli, Byatarayanapura Mysore Road and she couldn't found the same after due diligent search, hence she has lodged a police complaint with Bengaluru City police on 18/05/2023 to that effect. If anyone found the aforementioned original documents, it is hereby called on the general public to hand over the same to the below mentioned address or to Bengaluru City police. Take notice that, the mis users will be prosecuted.
**N.S. SHIVASHANKAR, Advocate**
# 48/1, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, Opp: Canara Bank, Vallabha Nagar, Uttarahalli Main Road, Uttarahalli, Bangalore-560061.
Ph No. 9343094442, 080-41628629

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**
**E-TENDER NOTICE FOR THE SUPPLY OF STORES NO. E-02/2023**
The following e-bid has been published in GeM website. Firms are requested to login to **www.gem.gov.in** and quote against the following e-bid. Manual Quotations will not be entertained.

| S.No. | Tender No. | Brief Description of Stores | Due Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **GEM BID ID NO. GEM/2023/B/3415617** | **Steel Channels** | **26.05.2023** |

**Dy. Chief Materials Manager, Signal Stores Depot, Podanur**
**Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Finance Department)
**FISCAL POLICY INSTITUTE (FPI)**
Bangalore-Mysore Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru - 560 060.
Ph: 080-2697 1000, Fax: 080-2697 1010, website: www.fpibengaluru.karnataka.gov.in
No:FPI/Est/17/2023-24 Date: 22-05-2023
**Applications for the post of Research Fellows & Research Associates**
Applications are invited for the post of Research Fellows & Research Associates at Fiscal Policy Institute on contract basis. The eligible candidates may apply in the prescribed application format as detailed and available at : **www.fpibengaluru.karnataka.gov.in/.**
**Last date for receipt of completed applications by post or e-mail is 30.06.2023.**
DIPR/CP/BCPL/102/2023-24 **Sd/- Director, FPI**

**Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike**
Office of the Executive Engineer, Shivaji Nagar Division, Thimmaiah Road, Bengaluru
No: EE/SJN/TEND/01/2023-24 Date: 22.05.2023
**INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)**
**(Short term Tender Notification)**
**(Through e-Procurement Portal GOK website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in only)**
The Executive Engineer (Shivaji Nagar) Division invites Item Rate tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP, Bangalore from eligible tenderers for the works details in the table given below. The tenderers may submit tenders for the works given in the table though e-registered in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike/BWSSB/KUSWS&B/PRED/PWD/Railways/MES/any State or Central Govt., Organization.

| Sl. No. | Name of the work | Approx. value of work (Rs in Lakhs) | EMD (in Rs.) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Establishment of Temporary Control Room for Mansoon Period (01/06/2023 to 30/09/2023) in Vasanth Nagar Sub Division. | 5.00 | 12500.00 |
| 2. | Establishment of Temporary Control Room for Mansoon Period (01/06/2023 to 30/09/2023) in Shivaji Nagar Sub Division. | 5.00 | 12500.00 |

**Calendar of Events:** 1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of GOK from 23/05/2023. 2) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is 29/05/2023 upto 4.00 p.m. 3) Date of Opening of Tenders is on 30/05/2023 by 4.30 p.m. if possible or Next working day.
**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Shivaji Nagar Division**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
Our clients intend to purchase the residential plot No.312, presently bearing BBMP Khata No.794/722/312, Kasavanahalli Gramatana, Varthur Hobli, Ward No. 150-Bellandur, Bangalore,measuring 2178 square feet (about 02 Guntas), which is fully and particularly described in Schedule hereunder written and hereinafter referred to as the **`Schedule Property'**, from Rajesh Menon,son of V.B. Radhakrishnan, aged about 49 years, residing at Flat No.137, B-Block, DS-Max Sherwood Apartments, Gunjurupalya Main Road, Gunjuru, Bangalore-560 087 **('Owner')**.
The Owner has represented that the Schedule Property is not the subject matter of any subsisting and valid mortgage, lien or charge in favour of anyone else, and that there are no subsisting and valid agreements for sale, or the like entered by the Owners in respect of the Schedule Property.
If any person has any right to, interest in or claim against the Schedule Property including but not limited to any encumbrance thereon by way of a charge, mortgage or lien or being a party to any Agreement for Sale or the like in respect of Schedule Property or any part thereof may within seven (7) days hereof submit to us such claim together with documentary proof in support thereof, failing which, it shall be presumed that there are no encumbrances, charges or lien or any valid and subsisting Agreement for Sale or the like in respect of the Schedule Property.
**SCHEDULE PROPERTY REFERRED TO ABOVE**
All that the piece and parcel of residential plot No.312, presently bearing BBMP Khata No.794/722/312, Kasavanahalli Gramathana, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore, Ward No. 150-Bellandur, (earlier bearing Village Panchayat Khata No.722 and much earlier being a portion carved out of converted land bearing Survey No.3/2, situate at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban District), measuring 2178 square feet (about 02 Guntas) i.e. east to west 60 feet and north to south 36.3 feet, and bounded on:
East By: Road;
West By:Remaining portion of Survey No.3/2
North By: Private Road belonging to Ittina Properties; and
South By: Prakash Reddy's land.
Bangalore, Date: 24th May 2023
**King & Partridge,** Advocates,
No.48, Lavelle Road, Bangalore-560 001.
Ph.No.: 080 22212341/42

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
The general public are hereby informed that our Client is desirous to purchase the immovable property, more fully described in the Schedule hereunder and herein after referred to as "Schedule Property", from its Owner, **Mr. DILIPKUMAR**
Any person/s having any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim against the Schedule Property or objecting to such sale should lodge their objections and/or claims in writing along with valid, legal documentary evidence in support thereof, with the undersigned within 21 days from the date of publication of this Notice, after which period our Client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claim/s of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.
**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**
All that Piece and Parcel of the Residential Site bearing No. 236, Sy. No. 78/2, Khata No. 356/236, Property ID : 150200100500620744 BDA Approved, Work Order No. : BDA/ Nayosa/ PRL- 40/2013 - 14/1529/2014-15, Layout situated at Chikkanaga mangala Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekla Taluk, Bangalore in the Layout "SUNNY GREEN WOODS" measuring East to West 9.14 Meters (30 Feet) and North to South 12.19 Meters (40 Feet) and totally measuring 111.41 Square Meters (1200 Square Feet).
**Mr. Ravikumar C.R., Advocate**
SGA Associates, Nanjappa Reddy Layout, Near BMTC Bus Stop, BTM Layout, Bangalore. Mobile : 9980445511
Email : ravikumarcradvocate@gmail.com
Date : 22/05/2023, Place : Bangalore.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
That the public are hereby informed and cautioned that my client **Smt. H.K. CHANCHALA DEVI**, W/o Late B.A. Narayana Reddy, is the sole and absolute owner of the properties bearing land measuring 7982.08 sq. ft and 5490 Sq Fts in Sy. No.116/6 and 116/7 of Hoodi Village, the land in Sy.No.114 of Hoodi Village, measuring 6010 Sq. Ft. the land bearing Sy.No.139, new Municipal No.319, measuring 31.85 Guntas, the land known as Plot No.5-P1 of EPIP Industrial Area, situated in Sy.No.143-Part of Hoodi Village measuring 511.00 Sq. mtrs. or 5498 Sq.Ft. all are situated at Hoodi Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District and also the residential house property bearing No.3BM-420 PID-No.89-397-3BM-420, Ward No.89, 5th cross, 3rd B main, 3rd Block, Kalyana Nagar, Bengaluru-560043, measuring 372.1 Sq Mts, with building measuring 185.806 Sq Mts and the residential Site bearing No.4AC 210, HRBR Layout, 3rd Block, Bengaluru-560084, total to the extent of 223.26 Square Meters. In respect of the above properties I had executed GPA/GPAs in favour of Mr. Santhosh .B to administer and management of the said properties. Therefore my client notifies the general public that the said GPA/GPAs said to have been executed by my client in favour of Santhosh .B is/are duly terminated/ revoked by issuing a Legal Notice dtd. 23/05/2023 and the General public shall not deal with anybody in respect of above said properties and if anybody deals with the said person, he/she/they will be doing so at his/her/their own risk and my client shall not be held liable or responsible for the same and the said person shall not derive any rights over said properties.
**SURESH .G.S,** Advocate
No.15, 1st Floor, 5th main, 5th cross, Vasanthappa Block, Ganga Nagar, Bengaluru-560032.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

ISTOCKPHOTO

# What counts is seldom counted: how the Census data remains under-utilised

The Census has a lot of potential in policymaking and the exercise is not merely about counting the population. Unfortunately, the limited information collected, and the under-utilisation or non-utilisation of Census data, have narrowed the role of the Census in policymaking

**S. Irudaya Rajan**
**U.S. Mishra**

*The 2021 Census, which has been indefinitely postponed, will be the first digital Census in the country as it will allow citizens, who have updated the National Population Register, to self-enumerate on a secured web portal. In this article, dated September 22, 2021, S. Irudaya Rajan and U.S. Mishra, talk about how the potential of Census data remains untapped*

India is busy debating the caste census when the regular Census itself has not been conducted owing to the pandemic. It is quite ironic that various elections have been held, and people gathered together at large rallies flouting COVID-19 norms, while the Census has still not been conducted. This is the first time that India has not conducted its decadal Census since the exercise began.

**Losing significance**

The design of the Census (whenever the exercise is held) can be improved. A digital Census would ensure better quality, coverage and quick results in this digital age. Given this promise on the one hand and the uncertainty in conducting the Census on the other, the demand for including caste enumeration within the Census only adds to the confusion.

First, we must recognise what the Census does. It has lot of potential in policymaking and the exercise is not merely about counting the population. Unfortunately, though, the limited information collected, and the under-utilisation or non-utilisation of Census data, have limited the role of the Census in policymaking.

Its importance is further diminished when numerous large-scale surveys are funded by the various ministries of the Government of India. These surveys are conducted periodically. They allow for a detailed analysis of the socio-economic issues of significance since the raw data are made available in the public domain. Hence, the Census, at best, serves as a framework for designing these surveys.

But the fundamental reason why the Census has lost significance is because the data collected are not disseminated on time, despite the use of technology. The primary reason for this is that the government regulates the release of the numbers based on its calculations of whether or not the Census data have the potential to harm the political agenda. For instance, the data on internal migration collected in the 2011 Census were made available to the public only when the Chief Economic Advisor decided to write a chapter for the Economic Survey 2016-17 in 2017.

This more-than-century-old decadal exercise is a matter of pride and distinction for this country. Unfortunately, its potential is hardly tapped by policymakers. Concerns now are only about counting castes and minorities, which will help political masters serve their own interests. Census data are mainly used by demographers, who have now redefined themselves as data analysts.

That this exercise has been reduced to just a count of the population is a great pity. Census-based information was important at a time when there was no alternative way of gauging the dynamics of population change alongside its varied features like employment, education, etc. While there is no denying the fact that alternative sources of information have enriched our understanding of population dynamics and facilitated focused interventions through programmes and policies, the Census has lost its potential relevance. Information is released late owing to bureaucratic regulations. There is also a lack of interest by the scientific community in a nuanced exploration of the data.

Despite the decadal nature of the data, the inter-Censal and post-Censal information could very well be generated with interpolation and extrapolation. Further, the fundamental demographic attributes around which the Census data are structured offer a lot of scope for interpretation and exploration for understanding future trends as well. The pseudo cohort inspection of the Census data can go a long way in informing us of the changing dynamics of population attributes over time.

The fascination and engagement with the Census have been quite limited to two concerns: sex ratio and work participation (female work participation in particular). But the Census data, if explored intelligently and systematically without the limitation of survey-based data sets like biases, errors and representational issues, have much more potential.

**Characteristic information**

The primary axes of disaggregation of Census-based information are residence, age, gender, administrative units, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and religion. Apart from such disaggregation, the Census offers two units of analysis: at the individual level and at the household level. These may appear quite limited, but a lot can be inferred from these attributes of disaggregation. Attributes of disaggregation are simply meant for identification and they are more neutral for intervention purposes. Disaggregated attributes should serve a purpose, i.e., help policymakers make interventions, if any. If the reason behind such a purpose is to gauge selective adversity or failure in entitlements, then ascribed attributes like caste and religion are perhaps less important than objective criteria like adversity or failure itself. In fact, associating caste/religion for identification and intervention generates an environment of patronage. In political terms, this can create clientelism. While there is no disagreement that systematic adversities are generated by one's caste position, it is not necessary to have the count of the attribute as it is to know the magnitude of adversity and its locational attributes. With a widespread information base through administrative records as well as periodic surveys, it is not difficult to focus on these adversities and alleviate them.

Counting ascribed identities like caste and religion is perhaps less progressive than counting achieved identities or capability attributes like education and profession and other tangible endowments like the ownership of land, house and other consumer durables. Further, associating any adversity with an ascribed identity may at best help focus the intervention but the effort should be on addressing the adversity irrespective of the identity. Injustice or wrongdoings need not necessarily be associated with ascribed attributes. In fact, many make the fallacy of association leading to causation and that leads them to conclude that adversity/discrimination associated with ascribed attributes are largely due to the attributes themselves. Going beyond this association and examining the failure in entitlements and circumstantial differences will perhaps be more effective in thinking of interventions and in addressing concerns. A better example to this effect is blaming certain minority communities for high fertility rates rather than identifying the real reason for the same in terms of socio-economic exclusion.

On the whole, count and characteristics are equally important, but the characteristics that are modifiable hold the key towards change. It is rightly said that what can be counted may not count and what counts is seldom counted.

*S. Irudaya Rajan is chairman, International Institute of Migration and Development, Kerala. U.S. Mishra is professor, Centre for Development Studies, Kerala*

ABSTRACT

## *Did improving 'doing business' scores boost growth?*

**Prashanth Perumal**

Tamanna Adhikari, Karl Whelan, 'Did raising doing business scores boost GDP?', Journal of Comparative Economics, May 13, 2023
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jce.2023.04.003

Many economists for a very long time have argued that institutions play a crucial role in the economic development of any nation. Until recently, the World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking was the most popular indicator used by several experts across the board to gauge the strength of a country's institutions. The World Bank's ranking of countries was based on how easy it was to start a business, enforce contracts, resolve insolvencies, get construction permits, etc., in these countries. In short, the ranking tried to measure how business-friendly an economy was towards companies in the private sector.

**Measuring ease of doing business**

There have, however, been several controversies surrounding the Doing Business ranking, which was eventually scrapped by the World Bank in 2021. For one, there was always the risk that, given the popularity of the World Bank's ranking, countries trying to improve their rankings could simply focus on the few narrow indicators that the WB tried to measure. In other words, governments could easily game the rankings by bringing in superficial reforms. Secondly, the WB through its surveys was measuring the experience of only a small set of businesses, whose experience may not necessarily reflect the reality faced by most other businesses in the country. Finally, in light of the increasing importance that was given to the rankings, there was pressure put on the WB from governments to rank their countries favourably.

In "Did raising doing business scores boost GDP?," Tamanna Adhikari and Karl Whelan study whether a rise in 'doing business' scores of countries led to a rise in the standard of living of people living in these countries, as measured by GDP per capita. They studied the 'doing business' scores of countries and the performance of their economies over the course of the rankings which were launched in 2003. Given the heavy attention paid to the 'doing business' scores, it might have been expected that an improvement in these scores would have a positive impact on the economy. However, the researchers from Ireland quite surprisingly found that improvements in 'doing business' scores actually negatively affected GDP growth in the short-run and had no positive effect on GDP growth in the longer run.

While Adhikari and Whelan do not offer definite conclusions on why this happened, they do suggest in their paper that the focus that governments put on boosting their countries' 'doing business' rankings may have deflected attention from real, substantial reforms that can actually boost economic growth. For example, it is easy for governments to take steps to boost the experience of a small group of businesses in getting construction permits or other licences in a few geographic locations than to bring in substantive reforms such as better laws and their impartial implementation across the country. If that's the case, then the WB's rankings might have done bad rather than good for countries by focusing government efforts on superficial indicators of institutional strength.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

## On May 24, 1844, Samuel Morse tapped out "What hath God wrought" in the world's first telegraph message. Here is a quiz on what is more famously known as the Morse Code

**Sindhu Nagaraj**

**QUESTION 1**
The International Morse code encodes the 26 basic Latin letters, a through z. Along with this, what else is encoded?

**QUESTION 2**
How is the Morse code transmission rate specified?

**QUESTION 3**
The International Morse Code uses a small set of punctuation as standardized sequences of short and long "dots" and "dashes". What are they also called?

**QUESTION 4**
The first public message that Morse sent in the American Morse Code was first used on which telegraph line?

**QUESTION 5**
Morse code was sometimes known as "iddy-umpty". This led to the formation of which English word?

**QUESTION 6**
When the French Navy ceased using Morse code on January 31, 1997, what was the final message transmitted?

**QUESTION 7**
Words have differing lengths because they contain differing numbers of dots and dashes. For this reason, a standard word is helpful to measure operator transmission speed. What are the two standard words used?

**Visual question:**
This is a very common code used in the Morse language. What is it?

**Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:** 1. The world's largest producer of mangoes. **Ans: India**
2. The scientific name of the mango tree. **Ans:** *Mangifera indica*
3. The popular name of this mango variety, first grown in the 19th century in the town of Thathachariar Thottam in Tamil Nadu. **Ans:** *Imam Pasand*
4. This deity had a tiff with his parents because they decided to award a Golden Mango 'unfairly' to his brother. **Ans: Muruga/Saravana**
5. The national tree of this country is the mango tree. **Ans: Bangladesh**
Visual: Identify this variety of mango. **Ans: Miyazaki Mango**
**Early Birds:** Himanshu Verma| K. N. Viswanathan| Indra Sharma| Prem Barnabas

## Word of the day

**Flaunt:**
the act of displaying something ostentatiously; display proudly; act ostentatiously or pretentiously

**Synonyms:** flash, show off, swank, ostentate

**Usage:** *He flaunted his new sports car to the entire department.*

**Pronunciation:** bit.ly/flauntpro

**International Phonetic Alphabetic:** /flɔ:nt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

# CM says pre-monsoon rain havoc has claimed 52 lives, tells officials to make field visits to help people

South-West monsoon likely to enter State on June 9; the pre-monsoon showers had also claimed 331 cattle besides damaging standing crops on 20,000 hectares and damaging 814 houses

**Rain preparedness:** Chief Minister Siddaramaiah along with Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and officials discuss measures to be taken ahead of the monsoon, in Bengaluru on Tuesday.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday instructed Deputy Commissioners of all districts and CEOs of Zilla Panchayats to transform the government's image by reaching out to people through field visits and shunning the earlier functioning style of operating from the comfort of their offices.

"It is not possible to work efficiently and effectively if you operate only from the office. You should be on the field attending to the problems of people. The Deputy Commissioners have stopped going into the field. Even they should start reaching out to people through field visits," said the CM, who reviewed the situation with respect to natural calamities and preparations for the monsoon as well as sowing for kharif season through video interaction with the administration of all the districts.

Referring to the incidents of rain havoc in which people lost their lives in different parts of the State, the CM warned the officials against laxity in preventing such incidents through precautionary measures.

### 10% excess rain, much damage

Mr. Siddaramaiah said the pre-monsoon showers, which were in excess of 10% compared with normal rainfall, had claimed the lives of 52 persons and 331 cattle besides damaging standing crops on 20,000 hectares and damaging 814 houses. He sought to remind the Agriculture Department about the need to take up precautionary measures for sowing season as the South-West Monsoon was expected to enter the state on June 9.

**Pre-monsoon havoc**

- Pre-monsoon rains are in excess of normal average by 10%
- 52 people and 331 cattle have died so far in rain havoc
- Rains have damaged crops on 20,000 ha besides damaging 814 houses
- South-west monsoon likely to enter State on June 9

He advised the officials to take precautionary measures in tune with the Weather Department's prediction to prevent flooding of human settlements. He asked them to identify the public infrastructure such as bridges and school buildings in dilapidated conditions so that they could be improved ahead of monsoon.

He warned the officials that any laxity or irresponsible attitude would not be tolerated.

He particularly asked the district administrations to ensure that there was adequate stock of sowing seeds and fertilizers ahead of the beginning of sowing season. He urged them to prevent recurrence of Haveri police firing episode in which police had to open fire on farmers who were protesting against shortage of fertilisers and sowing seeds during the BJP regime in 2008.

### On underpasses

The CM asked officials concerned to prevent water logging in underpasses in Bengaluru and close such underpasses temporarily if there was waterlogging. He also directed them to desilt Raja Kaluves and clear them of encroachments.

## Fugitive suspect involved in sacrilege case caught at KIA

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Immigration officials detained Sandeep Bareta, the key conspirator in the Bargari sacrilege case in Punjab reported in 2015 involving the desecration of the holy Guru Granth Sahib and member of Dera Sacha Souda. Sandeep was on the run for over seven years and was nabbed at Kempegowda International Airport while he was boarding a flight to Singapore.

Sandeep was handed over to the International Airport Police, who in turn handed him over to officials of a Special Investigation Team of the Punjab Police.

A Lookout Circular (LOC) was issued against him in 2021. The suspect was planning to fly out of the country from Bengaluru to Singapore and then to Shanghai in China.

### Since October 2015

A native of Bareta city in the Mansa district of Southern Punjab, Sandeep has been absconding since October 2015 after being wanted by Punjab police in the 2015 Bargari sacrilege incidents involving members of the convicted spiritual leader Gurmeet Ram Rahim's Dera Sacha Souda desecrating the Guru Granth Sahib at Gurudwaras in Bargari village in Faridkot district, Punjab.

The local court examining the Bargari sacrilege case had declared Souda's national committee members from Sirsa including Sandeep Bareta, Pardeep Kaler from Kalayat district in Haryana, and Harsh Dhuri from Sangrur district in Punjab as key conspirators and fugitives in the case. Kaler and Dhuri still remain at large.

With an SIT team of Faridkot leading the probe, the trio went into hiding for more than seven years and were suspected to have fled the country. Meanwhile, around 1 a.m. on Tuesday, Bareta was traced to KIA after he remained allegedly unaware of the fact that there was a LOC for his passport over the criminal charges.

He was detained immediately minutes before he was to board a flight to Singapore from where he had planned to flee to Shanghai using his Indian passport.

## Lack of proper maintenance of drains leading to flooding of underpasses: experts

**Inundation of underpasses**

Total number of underpasses in Bengaluru: 35
Total number of railway underbridges: 18

**Underpasses identified as problematic by Bengaluru traffic police**

- K.R. circle
- Kino theatre
- Nehru circle
- Underpass near Le Méridien
- Underpass near Malleswaram railway station

**Jahnavi T.R.**
BENGALURU

The tragic incident of a woman dying after a car was submerged in an underpass in K.R. Circle has left citizens questioning why underpasses are inundated during rains. Not just the K.R. Circle one but several other underpasses in the city often face water stagnation.

According to experts, underpasses in the city get inundated only when there is a lack of or no proper maintenance of lead drains. "From the point where both the ramps intersect, gratings are made, and lead drains are constructed which carry the water to the lowest point – either a storm-water drain or secondary drain near the underpass. It is carried to the lowest point to avoid the reverse flow of water," said Nagaraj K.T., former BBMP engineer. He said, "If the lead drain or the mouth of the grating is not cleaned up and it is jammed or clogged up, or silted up, that is when water stagnation occurs at underpasses. Every three months, these drains should be cleaned to avoid stagnation of water". BBMP inquiry committee led by Engineer-in-Chief B. S. Prahlad blamed gusty winds and rains that brought severed leaves into the underpass blocking the drain.

Mr. Nagaraj added that when the primary or secondary drains at the end of lead drains are overflowing then also some water might flow back to the underpasses if the falling in the pipes are not deep enough.

Srikanth Channal-, Chairman, Association of Consulting Civil Engineers, Bengaluru, blamed the administrators for the failure of underpasses. "Civil engineering has fallen into the wrong hands. The administrators do not care much about the technicalities included in the construction. The administration system and contractors have all become unprofessional," he said.

K.R. Circle underpass closed during the heavy rains in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Often left with the task of dealing with flooded underpasses, the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) have also identified a few problematic underpasses within the Central Business District (CBD). Apart from the K.R. Circle underpass, the underpasses near Le Meridian hotel, Kino junction, Nehru Circle and the one in Gayatripuram near Malleswaram railway station, are some of the problematic spots identified by the BTP. "The underpass problems in Kodigehalli and Kadubeesanahalli have now been resolved. We have submitted a list of 65 waterlogging spots in the city to the BBMP for treatment," said M. A. Saleem, Special commissioner, Traffic.

## Eddelu Karnataka to hold felicitation event

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Eddelu Karnataka (Wake Up Karnataka), a civil society collective that campaigned against the BJP in the recently concluded Assembly elections will be holding a felicitation event on May 26.

Holding a press meet on Tuesday at Press Club, members of the organisation said their grassroots work helped Congress emerge victorious. The campaign, led by writer Devanura Mahadeva, identified about 103 constituencies to work in.

In these segments, the volunteers suggested candidates capable of defeating BJP. The campaign also focused on increasing voter turnout of secular voters.

### 250 workshops

The members further said that Eddelu Karnataka organised about 250 workshops for volunteers in many places to guide them on how to work. The organisation generated nearly 10 lakh campaign literature pieces and over 1,000 social media posters, 80 videos and 7 songs.

### Death anniversary

The felicitation event is organised on the death anniversary of freedom fighter H.S. Doreswamy.

### Memorandum to CM

The members said the event will be attended by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

During the event, a memorandum about people' expectations from the Congress government will be submitted to the CM. Volunteers who toiled to defeat the BJP will be felicitated in the event.

## 21st edition of The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling to begin on June 3

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The 21st edition of The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling, 2023, will be held at 10 locations in nine cities across Karnataka from June 3, 2023.

The event will provide guidance on UPSC exam, CET counseling, NEET counseling by Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA), while also providing career guidance on courses in Arts, Science, Commerce, Law, Fashion Designing, Journalism, Animation, Performing Arts, Management, Engineering, Medicine and many more.

The event will provide a platform to connect students and parents with experts and educational institutions. The event also helps students make the right decisions after getting the right counselling and guidance.

Timings for registration is between 9.00 a.m. and 9.30 a.m.

The event will be held between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. For details, contact: 9845095781 / 9448160126 / 9448871815. Entry is free. All participating students will get career counselling book free.

**The Hindu Education Plus career counselling - 2023**

| Place | Date | Venue | Address |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mangaluru | 03/06/2023 | Geetha S.M. Shetty Hall | Ramakrishna College, Bunts' Hostel Circle, Mangaluru |
| Jayanagar | 03/06/2023 | NMKRV Shashwathi Auditorium | 22nd Cross, Jayanagar 3rd Block, Bengaluru |
| Davangere | 04/06/2023 | GM Institute of Technology | Auditorium Hall, Post Box No.4, P.B. Road, Davangere |
| Bidar | 04/06/2023 | Sri Poojya Channabasava Pattadevaru Rang Mandir | Near district stadium, Bidar |
| Malleswaram | 10/06/2023 | Chowdiah Memorial Hall | 16th Cross Road. Malleswaram, Bengaluru |
| Hubballi | 10/06/2023 | K.L.E Society's Biotechnology Auditorium | B.V.B. College of Engineering & Technology Campus, Vidyanagar, Hubballi |
| Ballari | 10/06/2023 | Basavarajeshwari Public School & College (BPSC) | Anantapur Road, Ballari |
| Mysuru | 11/06/2023 | Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering | P.B. No.206, Gokulam III Stage, Mysuru |
| Tumakuru | 11/06/2023 | Birla Auditorium | Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumakuru |
| Kalaburagi | 18/06/2023 | Poojya Doddappa Appa Sabha Bhavan | Poojya Doddappa Appa Sabha Bhavan, Sharana Basava University, Kalaburagi |

### Sponsors for the event

Gold Sponsor is Siddaganga Institute Of Technology - Tumakuru

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**Director, I.G.I.M.S., Patna**

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## INBRIEF

### Randeep Surjewala thanks Shivarajkumar and his wife

AICC general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala called on actor Shivarajkumar and his wife Geeta at their residence in Bengaluru to thank them for supporting the Congress in the elections. He later tweeted thanking "one of the most popular artists and even better human being for powering the Congress campaign and participating in the festival of democracy for development of Karnataka." About Ms. Geeta, he said, "With her distinguished lineage, Geeta Shivarajkumar is already part of the Congress family." During the run-up to the campaign, Ms. Geeta joined the Congress. She campaigned for Madhu Bangarappa, her brother and Congress candidate in Sorab constituency in Shivamogga district. He won the election against their other brother, Kumar Bangarappa of the BJP.

## From Page One

### DKS takes police top brass to task

"You should have come in saffron robes even for this meeting," he remarked sarcastically. They should have sported the national flag while on duty if they had any respect for the country, he added.

**'Disgrace to dept'**

"The Karnataka Police Department had a good name in the entire country. But you have brought disgrace to the department. The fact that an ADGP-level officer has tampered with the OMR answer scripts in examinations for recruitment of PSIs is an indication of the department falling from grace," he said. Taking exception to the police harassing the whistle-blowers in the PSI scam, including Congress leader Priyank Kharge, he said the main priority of the Congress government was to "clean up the Police Department".

**Cases against Cong leaders**

He took exception to the police filing cases against Congress leaders, including himself and Mr. Siddaramaiah, with respect to PayCM campaign taken up by them.

He also referred to the alleged police inaction when BJP leaders said Mr. Siddaramaiah should be attacked "like Tipu Sultan was". "We will not allow such things to recur now," he asserted.

Assuring the police that the Congress government will not demand money from them, he said, "There is no need for you to give money to anyone. But we expect you to ensure that people do not suffer."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that the Congress government will not allow "moral policing" irrespective of which community indulges in it. "We will put an end to it under our government," he said. While holding the first review of the law and order situation in the State, he emphasised the need to check efforts to disrupt communal harmony through social media.

# M.B. Patil's claim that Siddaramaiah will be CM for 5 years triggers tension

Surjewala reportedly asks CM and Dy. CM to direct their loyalists to refrain from making statements on chief ministership and power-sharing

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A few days after the oath-taking ceremony in Karnataka, differences seem to be cropping up between the camps of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar whose brother D.K. Suresh reacted to Minister M.B. Patil's claim that Mr. Siddaramaiah will be at the helm for the entire five-year term of the government.

"I can give a fitting reply. But, tell Mr. Patil that I will not. Mr. Siddaramaiah has become the CM. You (journalists) can meet AICC general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala and collect additional information on M.B. Patil's statement," said Mr. Suresh, who represents Bengaluru Rural in the Lok Sabha, on Tuesday. However, speaking to reporters at the State secretariat, Mr. Shivakumar downplayed Mr. Patil's statement. "Let anyone speak anything they want. AICC general secretary is there, the Chief Minister is there and AICC president is there to look into these things," he said, indicating that the power-sharing pact is known to the party high command.

A file photo of Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar with his ministerial colleague M.B. Patil and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Patil, meanwhile, clarified that he has not said anything new. "I have reiterated what senior leaders announced in the press conference," he said.

Speaking to reporters after meeting Shivaratri Desikendra swami at Suttur mutt, near Mysuru on Monday, Mr. Patil had ruled out the possibility of Mr. Siddaramaiah being replaced after the Lok Sabha elections in 2024, and said there is no power-sharing arrangement in Karnataka if the statements by the AICC leadership are taken into account.

**MLAs speak up**

A couple of MLAs of the Congress too reacted to Mr. Patil's statement.

Six-time MLA Dinesh Gundu Rao, who is seen as a loyalist of Mr. Siddaramaiah, said, "Why a discussion at all? Power-sharing issue was not discussed at all. Just a few days ago, Mr. Siddaramaiah was sworn-in as the CM."

Mr. Rao has been seeking a ministerial berth stating that he was a Minister for just 3 years in 24 years as an MLA. Ashok Pattan, another loyalist of Mr. Siddaramaiah, said he is unaware of a power-sharing pact. "The party high command would take a decision on continuation of Mr. Siddaramaiah as the CM," he said.

Mr. Surjewala has reportedly told Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar to direct their loyalists to refrain from making statements in public on chief ministership and power-sharing pact.

**BJP takes a dig**

Taking a dig at the Congress over this development, the Karnataka unit of BJP, sharing the video of Mr. Patil's statement in a tweet, said, "D.K. Shivakumar is not going to become CM, @siddaramaiah is not going to let him become. @MBPatil has just sent a direct warning to @DKShivakumar with this statement!"

The BJP also said, considering all the developments so far, there are no signs or guarantee that this government will be stable, despite getting the majority.

**Balancing demands**

The second phase of Cabinet expansion and assignment of portfolios is expected to trigger another round of war of words among Congress leaders in Karnataka.

A big challenge for the Congress seems to be the need to strike a balance between the two camps, and also ensure equal representation to various castes and communities that voted for the party. The 135 seats in the elections gave the Congress a clear majority in the 224-member Assembly.

# Nine newly elected MLAs yet to take oath

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Nine new MLAs had not taken oath till the end of Tuesday, a day before election to the post of the Speaker. Of them, six belong to the JD (S), two to Congress, and one to BJP.

They are H.D. Kumaraswamy, H.D. Revanna, B.N. Ravikumar, H.T. Manju, C.B. Suresh Babu, and Swaroop Prakash (all JD-S), H.C. Balakrishna, A.B. Ramesh Bandisiddegowda (Congress), and Prabhu Chavan (BJP).

**Speaker's warning**

Earlier in the day, pro tem Speaker R.V. Deshpande informed the House that by afternoon, 16 newly elected MLAs had not come to the House to take the oath as members of the Assembly and hence they could not participate in the elections to the post of Speaker.

He appealed to the 16 members to come to his chamber to take oath by the end of the day so that they would be able to take part in the election.

B.Y. Vijayendra of the BJP taking oath in the presence of pro tem Speaker R.V. Deshpande during the Assembly session in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**Seven take oath**

Subsequently, Dinesh Gundu Rao, Madhu Bangarappa, Priya Krishna, Rudrappa Lamani (all Congress), Sharada Puryanaik, Karemma (both JD-S) and Ramesh Jarkiholi (BJP) took oath at the Speaker's chamber. On Tuesday, Harish Poonja of the BJP, who was elected from Belthangady constituency, took oath in the name of Sri Ramachandra, while Sharanu Salagar, representing Basavakalyan Assembly seat, took the oath in the name of Shivaji and Basaveshwara.

B.Y. Vijayendra of the BJP (Shikaripura) took oath in the name of the local deity of his constituency. Laxmi Hebbalkar of the Congress (Belagavi) took oath in the name of Basaveshwara. G.K. Venkata Shivareddy of the JD(S), representing Srinivaspura in Kolar district, and Udaya K.M. of the Congress, representing Maddur, took oath in the name of voters.

# Khader is Congress choice for Speaker of Assembly

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Former Minister and five-time MLA U.T. Khader is the choice of the Congress for the post of Speaker of Karnataka Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Khader filed his nomination for the Speaker's post on Tuesday. The ruling party's nominee is, generally, unanimously elected as the Speaker. If elected, Mr. Khader will be the first Muslim leader to serve in the post of Speaker of the Assembly in Karnataka.

While the names of senior party leaders and former Ministers R.V. Deshpande and H.K. Patil were being discussed, sources said both did not show interest in the job.

**Persuaded by Surjewala**

AICC general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala persuaded Mr. Khader to take up the job, sources in the Congress said.

U.T. Khader submitting application for the post of Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in Bengaluru on Tuesday. Also seen are Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Born on October 12, 1969, Mr. Khader served as Deputy Leader of Opposition when the BJP was in charge of the government (2019-23).

He holds a bachelor's degree in law. He started his political career as a district functionary of the NSUI in the 1990s. He is a five-time MLA.

His first contest was the 2007 bypoll from the erstwhile Ullal constituency (now Mangaluru) after the demise of his father U.T. Fareed who was the sitting MLA. Since then, he has won every election from Mangaluru constituency.

**As Minister**

He served as the Health, and the Food and Civil Supplies Minister in the Siddaramaiah-led government during 2013-18. In the JD(S)-Congress coalition government in 2018-19, Mr. Khader held the portfolios of Housing and Urban Development.

# Technology is reshaping the very fabric of international trade: Commerce Secretary

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A rapid advancement in technology is reshaping the very fabric of international trade and India is at a vantage position in terms of technological transformation, said Sunil Barthwal, Secretary, Department of Commerce.

He was addressing a media conference held in connection with a three-day G20 Meeting on Trade and Technology Cooperation that began on Tuesday here.

**Deeper collaborations**

"We must increase global collaboration to enhance trade facilitation through digital exchange of cross border trade documentation. This will result in deeper trade collaborations among G20 members and eventually help harness the transformative power of trade and technology for the benefit of our economies and societies," Mr. Barthwal elaborated.

> We must increase global collaboration to enhance trade facilitation through digital exchange of cross border trade documentation.
>
> **SUNIL BARTHWAL**
> Secretary, Department of Commerce

The G20 Meeting, in the coming two days, would deliberate on how the power of technology could be used to pave the way for a prosperous future, and inclusive growth of a community.

The meeting would also stress the importance of enhanced collaboration on standards, movement towards interoperability of digital infrastructure and deeper cooperation and partnership of business ecosystems.

The event was hosted by the Department of Commerce and organised by Nasscom and EEPC India on the sidelines of the 2nd G20 Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting in the city. Delegates from all member countries, industry and academic experts from across the world are participating in the conference.

The opening session also witnessed participation of Debjani Ghosh, President, Naascom, and Mr. Arun Kumar Garodia, Chairman, EEPC (Engineering Exports Promotion Council) India.

RELATED STORY
» PAGE 14

# Bureaucrats urged to help deliver good governance

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has asked the top bureaucrats to join hands with the new government in implementing its promise of delivering good governance and responsive administration.

The Chief Minister, who began the crucial process of establishing control over administrative machinery by holding a meeting of Principal Secretaries and departmental heads to review the situation with respect to administration on Tuesday, told them that the government was keen to keep up its promise of delivering good and clean administration.

"People have elected us with a lot of expectations of getting efficient and an unique government which is responsive to their problems. We are keen to respond to their aspirations," he said.

# HC refuses to interfere with sealing of nine SDPI offices in Mangaluru

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has rejected the petition filed by the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) questioning the legality of sealing its offices in Mangaluru and asked the party to approach the district court to disprove the allegation that its offices were being used for the activities of banned organisation.

**Nine offices sealed**

The authorities had sealed nine office premises of SDPI in Mangaluru on September 28, 2022 on the charge of being used for the activities of the Popular Front of India, which was banned by the Union government on September 27, 2022, under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

"Merely because all the offices in Mangaluru are sealed and not anywhere else would not mean that evidence would not be required for the petitioner to prove its case in terms of Section 8 of the UAP Act," said Justice M. Nagaprasanna in his order while giving liberty to the SDPI to approach the district court as per the provisions of the UAP Act.

**'Not PFI associate'**

The SDPI had claimed that it was not one of those entities that were declared to be associates of Popular Front of India and therefore the very act of the State government in searching and sealing the offices of the SDPI was contrary to law.

Pointing out that the authorities, in the notification of sealing office premises had clearly indicated the Section 8 of the Act for approaching the district judge on grievances about sealing, the court said that SDPI has an alternative remedy before the district judge to lead evidence to disprove the allegation of using of its premises for the activities of the banned organisation.

**Court asks the party to approach the district court to disprove the allegation that its offices were being used for the activities of PFI**

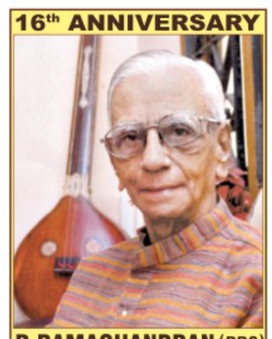
**Evidence required**

The High Court also said that it cannot examine correctness of sealing as the matter requires consideration of evidence for which the appropriate forum would be the district court as prescribed in the UAP Act.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

16th ANNIVERSARY



R.RAMACHANDRAN (RRC)
1st Jan 1924 – 24th May 2007
Fondly Remembered by
FAMILY, FRIENDS & HAMSADHWANI

Mrs. Saroja Sundaram (Amma)
Fondly remembering you on the fifth anniversary of your demise on May 21, 2018.
- Jaya, Ravi, Shubha, Akhila, other family members & friends

## NCW panel to probe murder of Kerala doctor

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The National Commission for Women has formed a two-member committee to probe the murder of a 23-year old doctor in Kerala.

Vandana Das was stabbed to death on May 10 at a government hospital by a school teacher, who was brought to the hospital by the police for treatment

The NCW said the family of the victim has expressed dissatisfaction with the actions undertaken thus far by the Kerala Police and approached the commission seeking an intervention in the matter.

"Further, the family has made allegations of a potential cover-up by the police department," the commission said on Tuesday.

The two-member inquiry panel would be headed by NCW Chairperson Rekha Sharma and would visit the State on May 25 "for a thorough inquiry to address these concerns".

**Draw up protocol: HC**

Meanwhile, the Kerala High Court directed the State government to draw up a protocol to be followed while producing accused before magistrates and doctors on war footing. It asked the State to report the progress of the preparation of the protocol on May 25 when the court considers the case. Though the State government sought two weeks for the preparation of the protocol, the High Court turned it down.

*(With inputs from Kochi)*

# No bar on using the term 'divinity' in the name of a political party: HC

Justice Anita Sumanth sets aside an order passed by the Election Commission of India in 2016

**Mohamed Imranullah S.**
CHENNAI

The HC directed the EC to register a party named Desiya Deiveega Murpokku Kazhagam, meaning 'national divine progressive body'.

Holding that 'divinity' is not an overtly religious term and there cannot be a bar on using it in the name of a political party, the Madras High Court has directed the Election Commission of India (EC) to register a party, named Desiya Deiveega Murpokku Kazhagam (DDMK), meaning 'national divine progressive body'.

Justice Anita Sumanth allowed a writ petition, pending for the last seven years, and set aside an order passed by the EC on May 13, 2016, refusing to register the party on the grounds that its name contained a word with a religious connotation. The judge directed the EC to accept the name within four weeks.

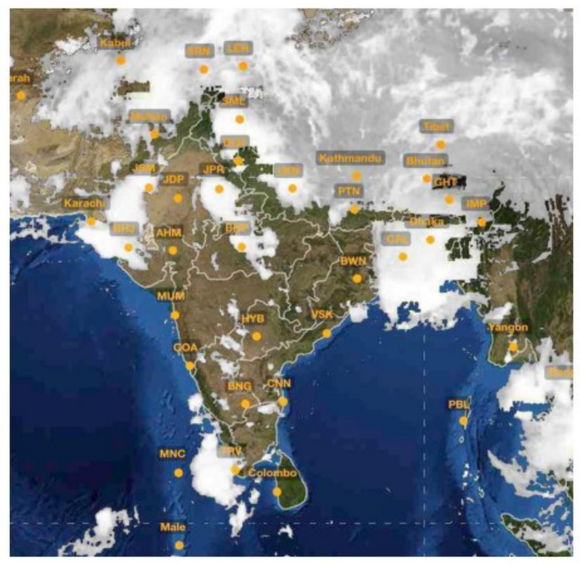
Though the term 'Deiveega' could also mean 'godliness', the judge said its exact intended meaning in the name of a political party must be construed in the context of the words that precede and succeed it. In the present case, the words, 'national' and 'progressive', also had been used by the petitioner party. "After all, patriotism could well be the highest form of religion. Indian culture and ethos revere the country, placing her on an exalted pedestal as mother India. The use of the word, 'Deiveega', in the name of the petitioner, thus hardly contains or indicates any religious connotation, *stricto senso*, and must be understood only in this context," she wrote.

Tracing the history of the issue, Justice Sumanth said Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, does not specify any detailed parameters for the names to be used by political parties, except for expecting them to be aligned with the constitutional principles of socialism, secularism and democracy.

In 2004, a case was filed against the use of religious phrases in the names of political parties.

## WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday




TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Wednesday:** Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Chhattisgarh, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, coastal Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Kerala

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN | CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | 17.2 | 34.0 | 27.7 | Kozhikode | — | 35.6 | 26.6 |
| Ahmedabad | — | 42.3 | 27.8 | Kurnool | — | 41.0 | 29.1 |
| Aizawl | — | 33.5 | 20.7 | Lucknow | — | 41.6 | 28.0 |
| Allahabad | — | 41.8 | 28.2 | Madurai | — | 38.0 | 25.6 |
| Bengaluru | 16.3 | 33.2 | 21.0 | Mangaluru | 7 | 34.3 | 23.4 |
| Bhopal | — | — | — | Mumbai | — | 34.2 | 27.0 |
| Bhubaneswar | — | 42.6 | 26.7 | Mysuru | — | — | — |
| Chandigarh | — | 41.0 | 28.7 | New Delhi | — | 43.5 | 29.8 |
| Chennai | — | 38.4 | 28.0 | Patna | — | 30.5 | 26.3 |
| Coimbatore | — | 36.0 | 24.2 | Port Blair | — | 34.9 | 26.6 |
| Dehradun | — | 38.7 | 23.8 | Puducherry | — | 35.9 | 27.1 |
| Gangtok | — | 24.1 | 17.0 | Pune | — | 40.1 | 24.3 |
| Goa | 1 | 35.0 | 24.0 | Raipur | — | 41.4 | 25.8 |
| Guwahati | — | 33.0 | 23.4 | Ranchi | — | 40.0 | 25.6 |
| Hubballi | — | 37.0 | 23.0 | Shillong | — | 25.6 | 16.3 |
| Hyderabad | — | 37.4 | 26.3 | Shimla | — | 28.0 | 19.3 |
| Imphal | — | 31.4 | 20.1 | Srinagar | 0.3 | 25.6 | 14.8 |
| Jaipur | — | 42.4 | 30.8 | Thiruvananthapuram | 22 | 32.5 | 23.1 |
| Kochi | 0.4 | 32.6 | 26.0 | Tiruchi | — | 38.7 | 25.6 |
| Kohima | — | 24.7 | 16.3 | Vijayawada | — | 39.3 | 27.0 |
| Kolkata | — | 38.5 | 29.0 | Visakhapatnam | 24 | 33.2 | 23.2 |

*(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)*

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | .15 | .26 | .28 | 57 | 68 | |
| Bengaluru | .8 | .53 | .39 | 23 | 53 | |
| Chennai | .3 | .63 | .98 | 72 | 66 | |
| Delhi | .12 | .37 | .51 | 286 | 223 | |
| Hyderabad | .22 | .12 | .20 | 81 | 104 | |
| Kolkata | .14 | .14 | .26 | 66 | 82 | |
| Lucknow | .9 | .18 | .43 | 200 | 164 | |
| Mumbai | .3 | .50 | 106 | 57 | 77 | |
| Pune | 104 | 142 | 117 | 117 | 97 | |
| Visakhapatnam | .20 | .47 | .21 | 65 | 97 | |

**Yesterday**

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Gadag, Karnataka recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 460 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

**Air Quality Code:** Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

# Medicine godown gutted in Kerala; fireman killed

**The Hindu Bureau**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Forensic experts examining the site, where a massive fire broke out in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A drug godown of the Kerala Medical Services Corporation in the Kinfra International Apparel Park outside Thiruvananthapuram was gutted in a massive fire that broke out on Tuesday. A fireman involved in the fire-fighting operation was killed.

Official sources said the godown apparently stored a wide range of chemicals.

While multiple agencies have launched probes, preliminary findings pointed to the possibility of bleaching powder catching fire due to extreme heat. The loss is estimated to be ₹1.22 crore. While Kinfra Managing Director Santhosh Koshy Thomas said that the building had all necessary clearance, Director-General of Police, Fire and Rescue Services, B. Sandhya said it lacked the no-objection certificate from the Kerala Fire and Rescue Services. It also did not have the requisite firefighting capabilities that are necessary for such a building.

# Tamil Nadu CM Stalin reaches Singapore as part of official visit

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, who left Chennai on an official overseas visit on Tuesday, landed in Singapore around 6.30 p.m. local time. Tamil Nadu Industries Minister T.R.B. Rajaa and High Commissioner of India to Singapore P. Kumaran received the Chief Minister at the airport.

Later in the day, Sudarshan Venu, Managing Director of TVS Motor Company, called on Mr. Stalin.

Addressing the media before boarding his flight in Chennai, Mr. Stalin said his visit to Singapore and Japan was aimed at inviting industrialists to the Global Investors' Meet to be held in January next year.

Recalling the Memoranda of Understanding for projects worth over ₹6,100 crore that were signed during his visit to the United Arab Emirates in March last year, Mr. Stalin said Sharaf Group was investing in the State and LuLu Group had started its project in Coimbatore.

## INBRIEF

### Private buses in Kerala to go on indefinite strike from June 7

Private bus operators in Kerala have decided to go on an indefinite strike from June 7 midnight demanding retention of the existing permits of private buses and revision in student bus concession, among other things. T. Gopinathan, general convener of the joint committee, said the strike was not against the people but for the survival of the private bus industry. The State government has issued a notification preventing private buses from plying on routes beyond 140 km of their area of operation.

### Two missing, four survive as boat capsizes in A.P. district

Two persons went missing after a boat capsized in Vasista, a tributary of the Godavari, in Andhra Pradesh's West Godavari district on Tuesday. Four others survived the accident. The incident occurred reportedly while six persons were transporting coconuts on a motorboat between two villages. In the middle of the river, the crew reportedly lost control of the boat due to the heavy load of coconuts, leading to the capsize. Narsapuram DSP Ravi Manohara said, "A search is on for the two missing persons. Local swimmers have also been deployed. Four others on the boat managed to swim to safety."

### Industrialist Karumuttu T. Kannan passes away

Industrialist Karumuttu T. Kannan, 70, passed away at his residence here on Tuesday. His family members said he was ill for a brief period. He leaves behind his wife Uma Kannan, daughters Visalakshi and Radha and son Hari Thiagarajan. The last rites would be performed on Wednesday, family members said. Kannan had also been the Fit Person (Thakkar) of the Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple since 2005. Kannan was honoured with the Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award by the Tamil Nadu government.

# International antique dealer Subash Kapoor remains in prison

**R. Sivaraman**
CHENNAI

Subash Chandra Kapoor is suspected to be the mastermind of idol thefts from Hindu temples across Tamil Nadu. FILE PHOTO

International antique dealer Subash Chandra Kapoor, a U.S. citizen, remains incarcerated at the Central Prison in Tiruchi, even as the U.S. and Germany have insisted on his extradition.

One of the conditions laid down by Germany at the time of his extradition from Cologne in 2011 was that he should not be prosecuted in any other case except that of theft at the Suthamalli temple in Udayarpalayam taluk of Ariyalur district. But he has recently been made an under-trial prisoner in four more cases. This means he will be prosecuted further.

Kapoor, suspected to be the mastermind behind the theft of idols from Hindu temples across Tamil Nadu, was detained by the German police on October 30, 2011, at the Cologne airport. The German police acted on a Red Corner Notice from the Interpol.

The Idol Wing-CID, under DIG A.G. Ponn Manickavel, successfully extradited him from Germany in 2012. He was the prime suspect in the theft and illegal export of antique idols of deities and artefacts from India worth ₹600 crore, according to a report that Mr. Manickavel had filed then.

He was handed over to the Idol Wing-CID, Chennai, in July 2012, after being extradited to India to face the charges conditionally. Kapoor was cited as the first accused in the case booked by the police at Udayarpalayam in Ariyalur district in 2008 for burglary and illegal export of 19 antique idols, valued at over ₹94 crore, to the Art of the Past Gallery, New York, owned by him.

On November 1 last year, he was convicted and sentenced by the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Court, Kumbakonam, to 10-year rigorous imprisonment in the case.

He was lodged in the Central Prison, Tiruchi.

Prison sources said he had completed the sentence last year (the time that he had spent in jail prior to the conviction was taken into account). Since he refused to pay the fine of ₹4,000, which was imposed by the court, he had to undergo a further period of imprisonment until April 30 this year. He has been lodged in the prison after being remanded in a few more idol theft cases. He has not sought bail in three cases. He was granted bail in another case, but has not executed sureties, the sources added.

# HC directed to hear Avinash's pre-arrest bail plea tomorrow

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday conveyed its displeasure about the delay in Telangana High Court in deciding a pre-arrest bail plea filed by Lok Sabha MP Y.S. Avinash Reddy in connection with the murder of former Andhra Pradesh Minister Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy in 2019.

A Vacation Bench of Justices J.K. Maheshwari and P.S. Narasimha asked, "Like how much time does it take to decide on an anticipatory bail petition? We are not happy". It ordered the anticipatory bail petition to be listed before the High Court's Vacation Bench on Thursday.

On April 24, the apex court had set aside a series of "extraordinary" directions passed by the High Court on April 18, in which it had ordered the CBI to supply the Kadapa MP with its "questionnaire" and also share with him questions and answers in written form at the time of interrogation. The apex court had said that such directions amounted to "stultifying" the entire investigation. The April 24 order had also exposed Mr. Reddy to arrest.

Mr. Reddy had subsequently moved the High Court twice in April for anticipatory bail, but to no avail. The court had posted the bail plea to June 5. This when the SC had given the CBI a deadline to complete the probe by June 30.

# Unni Mukundan to stand trial in sexual harassment case

**The Hindu Bureau**
KOCHI

Actor Unni Mukundan will have to stand trial in a case relating to the outraging of the modesty of a woman.

A Single Judge of the Kerala High Court on Tuesday rejected the plea of the actor for quashing the FIR registered in the case.

The actor was booked following a complaint filed by a woman, who stated that the actor outraged her modesty when she met him in 2017 for a discussion of a movie.

The women had also filed a statement before the Judicial First Class Magistrate Court, Ernakulam in this regard.

As the investigation in the case was progressing, the counsel of the actor brought an affidavit of the woman reportedly stating that she was not interested in pursuing the case before the court.

The High Court, which considered the affidavit, had stayed the proceedings in the case. However, the woman later informed the court that the affidavit was bogus following which the court vacated the stay.

The trial court will consider the case on June 9.

# Sandalwood museum in Marayur to have fragrance of myth and history

**Sandeep Vellaram**
IDUKKI

The Forest Department is all set to establish Kerala's first sandalwood museum at Marayur in Idukki soon.

According to officials, the new museum will be a major attraction at Marayur, which has the country's only natural sandalwood forest. Last month, Minister of Forests A.K. Saseendran announced the museum project.

**Unique attraction:** Sandalwood stored inside the sandalwood depot at Marayur in Kerala's Idukki district. JOMON PAMPAVALLEY

**Project report**

Sandal reserve divisional forest officer (DFO) M.G. Vinod Kumar told *The Hindu* that the department has initiated steps to prepare a detailed project report for the museum project.

"The museum aims at providing comprehensive details about sandalwood. The museum will include information about the history of sandalwood, myths associated with it, its present status, distribution, protection methods, demand, sandal products, value and classifications as well as about the threats it faces," he said.

"Apart from an opportunity to get to know about sandalwood through touch, smell and valuable information, visitors can purchase various sandal products from the museum. The report preparation is going on and we will submit it to the government soon for approval," said the official.

According to officials, every year, lakhs of tourists visit Munnar, some of whom explore Marayur as well. "We hope a large number of tourists will arrive at Marayur to visit the museum," said Mr. Kumar.

## Governing after win

### The Congress in Karnataka must now focus on governance

Unity among the ranks is easier while fighting as an oppositional force than while sharing power after winning. The Congress in Karnataka is still struggling to resolve its numerous inner power tussles after having reconciled the claims of its key leaders, Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar with their appointments as Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, respectively. Including them, a 10-member Council of Ministers was sworn in on May 20, representing all communities and broadly all the regions of Karnataka. M.B. Patil, who belongs to the Lingayat community that shifted from the BJP to the Congress in considerable numbers, and Priyank Kharge, a Dalit leader and the son of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, were sworn in along with two more Dalit leaders – K.H. Muniyappa and G. Parameshwara. The Council has a Scheduled Tribe member, a Muslim and a Christian, thus presenting a picture of the all-community social coalition that propelled the Congress to victory. But this is only the beginning of an arduous journey as the Congress's actions and words are going to be scrutinised by the public and the Opposition BJP that can be expected to be unforgiving. The focus must now be on governance, and not on placating every faction that is seeking ministry representation on the ground of community identity or political loyalty.

The challenges are twofold – to maintain decorum and unity of purpose, and to strive hard to deliver on the electoral promises and ensure good governance. One is not possible without the other, and on both counts, the new government can influence outcomes beyond the State. The dynamics evident so far indicate that Mr. Shivakumar has emerged as a power centre that will call for accommodation by Mr. Siddaramaiah. The Council has at least two members who too were aspirants for the top post. There are more berths to be filled, and the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister are now locked in a fresh battle over those. Mr. Shivakumar also appears to be emphasising his Vokkaliga caste identity in the ongoing bargains, which may cut both ways for him and the party. A surge in communal strife in recent years has distracted Karnataka from rising further as an economic powerhouse of the country. The new government has to treat mischief makers with an iron fist regardless of which community or religion they belong to. That is an early message that needs to be sent, loud and clear. The new government has announced the in-principle approval of the five guarantees that the Congress had promised, but there is considerable work to be done to implement them in a fiscally sustainable manner. If unity was required for winning, it is even more essential for governing.

## An unclean chit

### Court-appointed panel's report raises fresh questions on SEBI's functioning

Last Wednesday, the Supreme Court granted the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) more time to complete its investigation into Hindenburg Research's allegations of malfeasance, stock price manipulations and violations of minimum public shareholding requirements in Adani Group firms. Ahead of the Court's original May 2 limit, SEBI had sought at least six more months, citing complexities and the need to unravel layered deals it deemed "suspicious". The market watchdog has now got a three-month reprieve. But the findings of a six-member expert panel, tasked by the Court to review Indian securities market's overall regulatory and investor protection framework in the wake of the dizzying volatility in Adani Group stocks' prices, do not inspire much hope for an expedient closure. On its most vital term of reference – regulatory failure in dealing with the alleged contravention of securities market laws in relation to the Adani Group or other companies – the committee's findings are far from emphatic.

On the question of stock price manipulation, for instance, SEBI told the Justice A.M. Sapre-led panel that 849 automated "alerts" were thrown up by stock exchanges in the 57 months up to December 2022, resulting in four reports. The first of these reports, in September 2020, attracted SEBI's attention to some common foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) holding shares across the Adani Group. Juxtaposing this with earlier complaints, SEBI commenced a formal probe on potential violation of the 25% public shareholding norms in October 2020. SEBI cited Adani Enterprises' trading data to the panel and said no manipulation was found. But such analyses were still underway for other group stocks, compelling the panel to conclude that "...prima facie", it won't be possible to say there has been a "regulatory failure", even as it stressed that such investigations must be time-bound. Even on the probe into the public share-holding and related party transactions flagged by Hindenburg, the panel's inference is cautiously worded and hints at its own time constraints. "In these circumstances, it would not be possible to return a finding of regulatory failure... There indeed has to be a coherent enforcement policy." The key reason for SEBI drawing a blank in attempts (that began in 2020 and revived after the Hindenburg report) to identify the 42 ultimate beneficiaries behind 13 FPIs with sizeable stakes in Adani Group firms is that the regulator had itself tweaked the FPI norms in 2019 to make this obfuscation possible. Such a self-inflicted 'chicken and egg' situation, with capricious legislation diverging from enforcement, is rare and must trigger a closer look at SEBI's approach to its key mandate of protecting investors.

# Justice that also makes space for animal welfare

**Suhrith Parthasarathy**

is an advocate practising in the Madras High Court

Consider this example, from the philosopher Martha Nussbaum's book, *Justice for Animals: Our Collective Responsibility*. An animal, Susan, goes about her life, doing all the things that an animal of Susan's sort would. But while pursuing her goals, she runs into various hurdles, a few frivolous, and unimportant to her life, and a few that are more serious – an illness, a storm that wrecks her home, and so forth. So far, it is clear that while Susan has met with problems, she has not suffered injustice. But, say, just as Susan is going about her business, another creature encroaches on her space, stops her from reaching her goals. We might still not have entered the realm of injustice. What, though, if Susan's home was destroyed deliberately by a creature that ought to have known better? Suppose Susan was kept captive in unsanitary conditions, was not allowed to walk about, and suffered violence at the hands of the other creature. Nussbaum says, if Susan were a human being, it would be apparent to us that she had suffered injustice. Should the fact that she is a non-human animal matter? Should not our conception of justice make space for Susan?

If we were to see the law as a way of achieving justice, one would think that our ideation of constitutional rights will partake a commitment to welfare not just of human beings, but of other animals too. No doubt the text of the Constitution, the rights that it guarantees, are aimed at "persons". To confer personhood on animals will unquestionably bring with it various vexing quandaries. Should this, though, stop us from seeing the Constitution as a tool for ensuring justice for animals? Is there not enough room available within the abstract guarantees of the Constitution for a more enlightened approach to animal welfare?

**The *jallikattu* case**

These were some of the questions that were at stake before the Supreme Court of India in *The Animal Welfare Board of India vs Union of India*, where, among other things, the validity of a Tamil Nadu law permitting the practice of *jallikattu* was put to challenge. The case offered a signal opportunity for the Court to usher India's animal welfare code onto a fairer path. But, regrettably, the judgment delivered by a five-judge Constitution Bench on Thursday, May 18, 2023, not only falls short on delivering a robust jurisprudence for the future but also represents a retrograde effort at resolving the conflict. The sport of *jallikattu* involves men competing against each other by holding on to the humps of agitated bulls that are released into an open arena. The Supreme Court, in 2014, had previously declared the practice illegal. There, in *A. Nagaraja*, a two-judge Bench held that bulls could never be performing animals, that they were anatomically ill-suited for competition, and were effectively being forced into participating in a practice that caused them unnecessary pain and suffering. Therefore, in the Court's belief, any conduct of *jallikattu* breached the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

> In the context of the jallikattu case, it is surely not far-fetched to argue that a human's right to lead a meaningful life includes within it a right to live in a society that respects animals with equal concern

To overcome the judgment, the Government of Tamil Nadu, in 2017, introduced a series of amendments to the 1960 Union law. Through these changes, the State ensured that *jallikattu* was altogether exempted from the protections that the statute offered. The government said the law (which later received the President of India's assent) was made with a view to preserving the State's tradition and culture. A raft of arguments was made in assailing the amendment. First, petitioners claimed that the law had failed to overcome the verdict in *A. Nagaraja*, where *jallikattu* had categorically been found unlawful. Second, they argued that the Government of Tamil Nadu lacked the legislative competence to amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in a manner that diluted its safeguards. Third, they asserted that animals too must be treated as persons, and to that end, *jallikattu* must be seen as impinging on the right to life, guaranteed by Article 21 of the Constitution.

**A dissatisfactory and contradictory response**

The Court's response to these arguments is not only deeply dissatisfactory but is also often contradictory. This is especially true in its approach to claims of personhood. The Court begins by holding that there is no precedent bestowing fundamental rights on animals in India. It would, it says, be an act of judicial adventurism to confer rights on animals that have otherwise been bestowed on human beings. But having said this, the Court then claims that the amending law can still be tested on an anvil of reasonableness that is contained in Article 14 of the Constitution. But that right too, it says, cannot be invoked by any animal as a person, but only "at the instance of a human being or a juridical person who may espouse the cause of animal welfare".

It is difficult to understand the rationale for this distinction. The right to equality guaranteed in Article 14 too, much like Article 21, is conferred only on persons. It reads as follows: "The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws." Now, if animals are not persons, as the Court holds, then surely the law cannot at the same time be tested on Article 14, since the right to equality can only be asserted by juristic entities. In any event, as it happens, despite these assertions, the judgment contains no ensuing analysis on whether the Tamil Nadu amendments infringe upon the various requirements of equal treatment.

To be sure, on a reading of the Constitution, the view that animals are not persons and therefore do not enjoy fundamental rights is not implausible. But should such an interpretation mean that a law, which fails to foster animal welfare, or encourages cruelty to animals, be treated as beyond judicial review? Envisage the following: should the Union government repeal the 1960 law, leaving us with no statute governing animal welfare, would the courts hold the repeal to be a fair exercise of power? If fundamental rights are not invoked, our courts might have no option but to hold so.

**Make it intrinsic**

The answer to the debate lies not necessarily in seeing animals as persons with standing, or in bestowing on them a set of justiciable rights. Instead, what we can do is to see how best to mend our conception of rights to partake basic requirements of animal welfare as intrinsic to our constitutional arrangement. The Supreme Court has routinely engaged in analyses of this kind on previous occasions. For example, it has held that a human being's right to life includes within its ambit a right to live in a healthy environment, and a right to clean air and water. Therefore, it is surely not far-fetched to argue that our own right to lead a meaningful life includes within it a right to live in a society that respects and treats animals with equal concern, to live in a world free of animal cruelty.

When we see things this way, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, turns into a legislation that is effectively a means to enlivening our fundamental rights. Deciding on issues of personhood might well be Parliament's prerogative. But our present juridical structure scarcely makes it impossible to treat the advancement of animal welfare as a project worth pursuing. Indeed, we must see it as our collective obligation to extend our commitment to justice not only to human beings but to animals too.

# The paradox of BRICS, its new pathway

**Rajiv Bhatia**

is Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House and a former Ambassador

Mysterious are the ways in which multilateral groupings prosper and wither away. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and G-77 had their heyday in the Cold War era. Later they lost their relevance, but they still exist. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summits ended in 2014, but the Secretariat somehow keeps itself busy. Despite serious policy divergences on China and Myanmar, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) continues to function, consuming reams of paper to issue long communiqués.

The case of BRICS is truly remarkable. Despite several achievements, it began to lose its sparkle. COVID-19, the Galwan clash, and the Ukraine conflict resulted in increased global economic stress, damaged India-China ties, and turned Russia into a diminishing power. The group may have lost its mojo, but numerous nations want to be admitted, thus showing the paradox of BRICS.

**The balance sheet**

Jim O'Neil's conception of BRIC, a grouping of four emerging economies (Brazil, Russia, India, and China), may not have gone far but it was a popular acronym over two decades ago. However, two of its components joined hands with South Africa to form IBSA (India, Brazil, South Africa) in 2003. China was keen to join it in the century's first decade and managed to enlist South Africa's support. But Brazil and India would not go along, maintaining that the forum was open to democracies only. Rebuffed, China played a trump card, and decided to bring South Africa into BRIC, thus turning it into BRICS. Soon, the new club overshadowed the old one. IBSA has been unable to hold its summit since 2011. But BRICS has held 14 summits in the past 13 years.

BRICS focused its attention on both geopolitical and economic dimensions. By articulating a common view on key global and regional issues, it projected a non-western view. This strengthened the world's march towards multipolarity, thus helping to curb the dominating influence of the West. On the economic front, it launched new initiatives: the New Development Bank which has committed $32.8 billion in 96 projects; the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), a financial mechanism to protect against global liquidity pressures; and a comprehensive programme to expand trade and investment cooperation among the five-member countries. However, negative tendencies soon asserted themselves. If the IBSA trio within the BRICS expected that China and Russia would fully back their bid to secure membership of the UN Security Council, they were disappointed. A formulation, frozen in time, patronisingly supporting 'the aspiration' of Brazil, India and South Africa to play a greater role in the UN, figures in every BRICS communiqué, showing the grouping's utter diplomatic bankruptcy.

> The group may have lost much of its sparkle, but a long queue of nations awaits membership

The century's second decade was also the era of China's dramatic economic rise and, more importantly, military assertiveness. This disturbed the group's inner balance. The post-Ukraine consolidation of Russia-China cooperation, economic malaise in South Africa that accelerates dependence on China, and Brazil's long fling with rightist policies followed by the return of a tired Lula da Silva as the President, have generated new tensions. Beijing's push for a common currency for intra-BRICS trade is also symptomatic of the group's inner troubles.

**An admission rush**

Yet, 19 countries now stand in line, eager to join BRICS. The regional breakup is as follows: Latin America (four) - Argentina, Nicaragua, Mexico and Uruguay; Africa (five) - Nigeria, Algeria, Egypt, Senegal and Morocco; and Asia (10) - Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Türkiye, Syria, Iran, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Thailand, Kazakhstan and Bangladesh.

Several explanations may be offered. First, China is pushing the expansion as a strategic device to extend its global influence. Second, the demand to join BRICS stems from FOMO or 'fear of missing out' on the membership of a club that has some visibility. Third, many realize that the doors of other groupings are closed to them. Finally, the clamour reflects prevailing anti-western sentiments and a pervasive desire to create a sizeable forum of the Global South.

The next BRICS summit will be hosted by South Africa on August 23-24. It could take decisions on expansion and its criteria. Preparatory meetings of the Foreign Ministers and the National Security Advisers are certain to deliberate on this subject. Three options are available: a mega expansion that raises the membership from five to 21, thus surpassing the G-20; limited admission of 10 new members, two each supported by an existing member; and admission of only five new members, one each supported by an existing member, with none of the other four using their veto. India favours expansion if it is based on agreed criteria and moves gradually. Should the third option win consensus, Argentina, Egypt, Indonesia, UAE and Bangladesh are the most likely states to make the cut.

Will the BRICS leaders meet physically? Fairly unlikely. Because of its legal obligations relating to the ICC, South Africa as the host may be compelled to arrest an honoured guest – the President of Russia. Therefore, chances are that a digital summit will take place. When the leaders talk, they should reflect on strengthening BRICS and redressing the internal imbalance. They should also know that once new members are admitted, they will certainly seek to change the group's name. Perhaps then the grouping's future will be better than its past.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Unrest in Manipur**

It is a matter of national shame that Manipur continues to burn even after the armed forces have stepped in (Page 1, "Fresh violence puts Manipur on edge", May 23). What we have witnessed in Manipur in the last 15 days has been unprecedented violence and large-scale displacement. It is deplorable that the State government has failed in its duty to protect the people. The government must take up all relief, rehabilitation and confidence-building measures at once and push hard to restore peace.

**P.H. Hema Sagar,**
Secunderabad

My tribal brothers and sisters in the hilly areas of Manipur are facing grave discrimination. The recent clashes have left us traumatised; our houses and our churches have been burnt. While Internet services have been resumed in the Valley areas, they are still blocked in the hills. Communication is difficult. Our voices need to be heard.

**Jennifer Singson,**
New Delhi

**President and Parliament**

It is unfortunate that a historical occasion such as the inauguration of the new Parliament building should become embroiled in avoidable controversies. Not inviting the constitutional head of the Republic on such an occasion inarguably undermines the sanctity and the dignity of the office of the President.
Posterity would remember only those who qualitatively contribute to enriching the functioning of the democratic institutions with awe and admiration, and not those who merely build magnificent structures housing such institutions. It is still not too late for the government to invite the President.
This would only enhance the top leader's stature as a leader who is sensitive and responsive to constructive criticism.

**S.K. Choudhury,**
Bengaluru

It does not matter what the Congress did decades ago. It does not become a convention. The new Parliament must be inaugurated by the head of the nation. The new Parliament cannot be compared with a stadium in Gujarat.

**Tusar Kanti Kar,**
Kolkata

It is not in the fitness of things that the President has not been invited to inaugurate the new Parliament. Let us hope that those at the helm of affairs do a rethink before it is too late.

**K.P. Sasidharan Nayar,**
Alappuzha, Kerala

If the Opposition, especially the Congress, wants the President to inaugurate the building, it is not out of respect for the President but due to personal and political animosity towards the Prime Minister. Another reason is that the inaugural function is taking place on the birth anniversary of V.D. Savarkar.

**K.V. Seetharamaiah,**
Bengaluru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

# Disregarding Constitution, court, citizens

**Kailash Gahlot**

is Law Minister of Delhi

In the last 10 days, we have witnessed both the emancipation and subversion of the people's will. The emancipation was at the hands of the Supreme Court, where a five-judge Bench unanimously recognised the control of the Delhi government over administrative services. The subversion was at the hands of the Central government, which, by promulgating an ordinance to nullify the effect of the Supreme Court judgment, snatched away the Delhi government's power to control services and handed it to Central government appointees.

**Government in the dark**

The story began in 2015, when the Union Ministry of Home Affairs took away the elected Delhi government's control over services and gave it to the Lieutenant Governor (LG), a Union government appointee. This severely impeded the Delhi government's work. There were day-to-day problems in the functioning of important departments as secretaries were changed every now and then. Frequent transfers of officials, before they could even familiarise themselves with the departments they were working in, minimised any potential for vision, consistency and efficiency in governance. Over two years of the pandemic, the Centre changed Delhi's Health Secretary eight times and derailed the Delhi government's relief efforts.

Over the past one and a half years, decisions for appointments and transfers were made by the Services Secretary, the Chief Secretary, and the LG, while the elected government was kept in the dark. As the government had no functional control, it could not punish errant officers. Delhi witnessed the highest number of vacancies of teachers, doctors, engineers, clerks and other staff as a result of perennial mismanagement of the Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board, managed by the LG.

Most disappointingly, several honest and efficient officials were often penalised for their merits and subjected to punishment postings. They had no clarity on whose directions they were to follow. On the one hand, they felt duty-bound to honour the will of the people expressed through the elected government, and on the other hand, they had to stay under the functional control of the LG.

On the strength of the Home Ministry notification, the Services Department even refused to answer questions raised by MLAs in the Vidhan Sabha, which dealt with crucial issues such as vacancies, vigilance enquiries and corruption cases. Some senior officials even started skipping meetings called by Ministers. They avoided telephone calls and evaded answerability for delayed, inefficient and inadequate action. Thus, important issues such as procurement of anti-smog guns, prevention of dumpsite fires, infrastructure maintenance framework, upgradation of sewage treatment plans, supply of medicines in Mohalla Clinics and hospitals, and redevelopment of Inter-State Bus Terminals were left unattended.

By holding that services in Delhi are to be controlled by the elected Delhi government, the Supreme Court paved the way for an efficient, honest, responsive, accountable and compassionate bureaucracy. It ensured that the chain of accountability involving the people, the legislature, the government and bureaucracy was restored. Empowered by the Court's decision, the elected Delhi government sought to make transfers and postings of officers based on their performance. It could have taken action against errant officials. With the clarity provided by the Court, the officials who felt suffocated in the previous system were eager to work towards the development of Delhi and the welfare of its people. The Delhi government planned to overhaul the bureaucracy, and after the success of its health and education models, sought to set up a skilled administration model.

> By disregarding the elected government in the matter of services, the Centre's Services Ordinance reduces the value of the citizen's vote and of cooperative federalism

**What the ordinance does**

The Services ordinance again hands over the control on services to the unelected LG, who will use his sole discretion in these matters. The National Capital Civil Service Authority will see two bureaucrats appointed by the Centre vetoing the views of Delhi's Chief Minister. It will enable the appointment of officers who do not execute the government's policies or attend meetings with Ministers, and have no responsibility to answer for bureaucratic delays. Those who cooperate with the elected government will be shunted out, and even subjected to disciplinary proceedings.

The Supreme Court decision was a scathing indictment against the Union government and its tendency to usurp powers of States and the National Capital Territory (NCT). But the ordinance, by disregarding the elected government in the matter of services, reduces the value of the citizen's vote and of cooperative federalism. It is an institutionalisation of the Centre's tendency to use the apparatus of Governor/LG to undermine democratically elected governments in non-BJP ruled States/NCT. The Supreme Court judgment will be noted for decades. So will the Services ordinance. While the judgment will be remembered as a vindication for the elected Delhi government and its people, the Ordinance will be remembered as a bleak attempt to disempower opposition-run governments and disenfranchise the people.

The Arvind Kejriwal-led government has a track record in delivering its promises even in a hostile environment created by the Centre. While we pin our hopes on the Supreme Court to again do justice to the people of Delhi, the Delhi government will continue to deliver even in the face of adversity.

# Redrawing the poll strategy in Bihar

The BJP is looking to step up its OBC outreach, especially among the Kushwahas

STATE OF PLAY

**Amit Bhelari**
amit.bhelari@thehindu.co.in

The appointment of Samrat Choudhary, 54, as the president of the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Bihar unit in March this year is aimed at realigning the party's relations with different caste groups and political parties in the State.

Mr. Choudhary is the first BJP president from the Kushwaha community (traditionally Koeri caste), the largest Other Backward Class (OBC) group in Bihar after the Yadavs. This assumes significance as the party gears up to take on the Mahagathbandhan government led by Chief Minister and Janata Dal (United) leader Nitish Kumar and his deputy and Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav in the fight for Bihar's 40 parliamentary seats in the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

Mr. Choudhary, who is a member of the Legislative Council and the son of former minister Shakuni Choudhary, was associated with the RJD and the JD(U) before joining the BJP in 2017. With his appointment, the BJP is looking to step up its OBC outreach, especially among the Kushwahas. This is one of the two communities in Mr. Kumar's Luv-Kush vote base, an alliance between the Kurmi and Koeri castes, which together constitute about 10% of Bihar's population.

Since Mr. Choudhary's appointment, two former JD(U) spokespersons – Ajay Alok and Suheli Mehta – and over 100 district-level leaders of the ruling alliance have joined the BJP. Rashtriya Lok Janata Dal chief Upendra Kushwaha is also likely to join the BJP soon.

The central leadership is now looking to project Mr. Choudhary as its chief ministerial face for the 2025 Assembly election. The strategy is to split the JD(U)'s core 15% vote bank comprising Koeris, Kurmis and Extremely Backward Classes (EBC), as well as the RJD's Muslim-Yadav vote bank, which accounts for 30% of the State's population. Under Mr. Choudhary's leadership, the BJP aims to capture votes of the Kushwahas, who constitute 6% of the population, and a substantial chunk of the EBC votes.

The BJP had been struggling to find a strong face in Bihar after Kailashpati Mishra (who died in 2012) and Sushil Kumar Modi, who ruled the State for 17 years along with Mr. Kumar.

Chief Ministers in the State have come from the Rajput, Bhumihar, Kayasth, Kurmi, Brahmin, Dalit, Muslim and Yadav communities, but a Kushwaha leader has never occupied the chair. The only exception was Satish Prasad Singh, who held the post for just five days in 1968.

Earlier, there was groupism in the leadership. The BJP was divided into three camps along caste lines led by Nityanand Rai, Sanjay Jaiswal and Mr. Modi. After the change of guard, this has changed. Senior leaders in the BJP's core committee such as Nand Kishore Yadav and Prem Kumar who earlier exercised restraint have become vocal.

Unlike previous State presidents, Mr. Choudhary is known to speak his mind and has made regular vitriolic attacks on the Chief Minister. He has been attacking the Mahagathbandhan government on every front and visiting the riot-hit Sasaram and Biharsharif areas and the families of victims in hooch tragedies. He has also been holding daily meetings with party leaders and office-bearers and instructing the BJP social media team to highlight the State government's failures. While senior party leaders such as Union Minister Giriraj Singh and Saran MP Rajeev Pratap Rudy supported the early release of former MP Anand Mohan, Mr. Choudhary opposed the release of a criminal by changing the prison rules.

The BJP has also made another move to dent the ruling alliance by inducting former Union Minister and JD(U) president R.C.P. Singh. A senior BJP leader said Mr. Singh will have a crucial role to play as both he and the Chief Minister hail from Nalanda district and the Kurmi community. "As of now, he will not be given any important post in the organisation. But in the run-up to the Lok Sabha poll, he will play a key role in denting the vote bank of Nitish Kumar in Nalanda. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be holding a rally in Nalanda and R.C.P. Singh will be given the responsibility of making the event successful. His induction will boost the party," said a party leader.

Mr. Choudhary's leadership and performance as State party chief will be put to the test in the Lok Sabha election and the results will reveal if the BJP was successful in winning over the key vote banks in the State.

# How significant is BJP's deposit loss in 13.8% of Karnataka's seats?

The BJP lost deposits in 38.4% of the seats it contested in Southern Karnataka

DATA POINT

**Rebecca Rose Varghese & Vignesh Radhakrishnan**

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) lost deposits in 31 constituencies – 13.8% of the seats the party contested – in the recently concluded Karnataka Assembly elections. Notably, the party won 66 seats in the election, which is 29.5% of the seats contested. These two data points make for interesting reading, for when read together, they hint at a state of dichotomy in Karnataka. More importantly, when compared to all the recent State elections in which the BJP won a significant share of seats, Karnataka is a clear outlier in terms of the share of seats in which it lost deposits.

According to the provisions outlined in the Representation of the People Act of 1951, it is mandatory for general category candidates competing in an Assembly election to deposit ₹10,000 and Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) candidates to deposit half of that. In order to retrieve their deposits, candidates must secure a minimum of one-sixth (16.67%) of the total votes polled in their constituency. While the deposits were introduced to reduce the number of candidates competing, they later turned into a matter of pride with those losing deposits facing humiliation.

In the horizontal axis, **Scatter Plot 1** shows the seats won by the BJP as a share of the seats it contested in all the recent State elections. In the vertical axis, the seats in which the BJP lost deposits as a share of seats it contested is plotted. As can be observed from the chart, in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Mizoram, Punjab, Kerala and Meghalaya, where the BJP won less than 5% of the seats, it lost deposit in more than 70% of the seats. This is an understandable outcome. Given that the party was routed in these States, it was expected to lose deposits too in many of them. On the other hand, in all the States where it had won more than 10% of the seats, the share of seats in which deposits were lost was understandably low.

**Scatter plot 2** examines the seats where the BJP won more than 10% of the seats it contested. It is in these seats that the BJP's performance in Karnataka stands out. The 13.8% of seats where it lost deposits in Karnataka is the highest among these States, with Goa coming close with 12.5%. Among the major States, Odisha is a distant second where the BJP lost deposits in 8.8% seats. Interestingly, in West Bengal, where the BJP won 26.3% of the seats in the recent elections, it lost deposits in only 3.8% of the seats. In Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh and Delhi, it did not lose deposit even in one seat in the recent polls. Of the 22 States in which the BJP won more than 10% of the seats, in 16 it lost deposits in less than 5% seats. So, clearly, the BJP Karnataka results were an outlier.

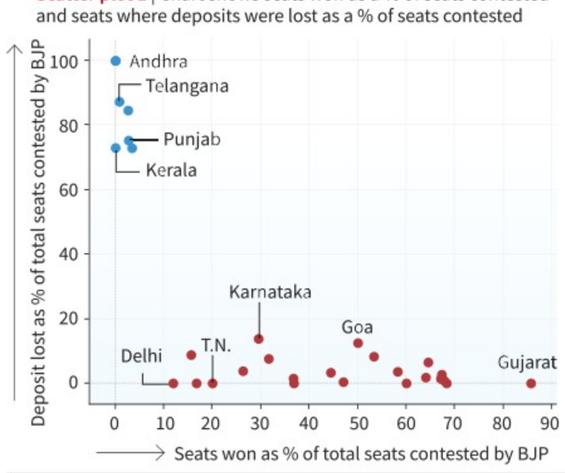
**Scatter Plot 3** adds another dimension to Scatter Plot 2. In this chart, the size of the circle corresponds to the seats contested by the BJP as a percentage of seats available in a State. The bigger the circle, the higher the share of seats competed by the BJP. As can be noted, the share of seats contested by the BJP in Tamil Nadu was relatively low, due to alliance equations with the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. Possibly because the BJP contested in only select seats, it managed not to lose deposit even in one, despite being a relatively weak party in the southern State.

**Chart 4** shows the seats in which the BJP lost deposits as a share of the seats it contested across regions of Karnataka. The BJP lost deposits in 38.4% of the seats it contested in Southern Karnataka, the highest such share among all regions.

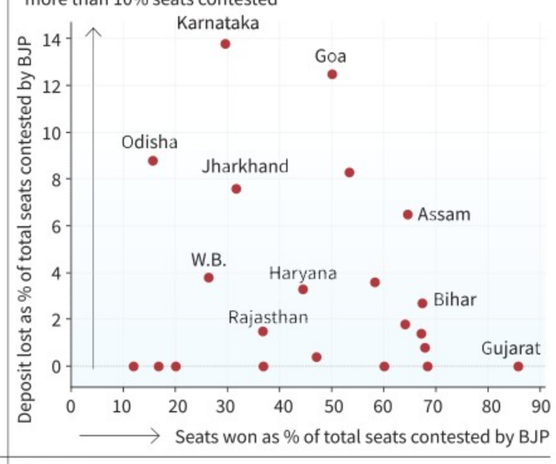
## Falling behind

The data for the charts were sourced from the Political Career Tracker for candidates in Indian National and State Assembly elections, Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University

Scatter plot 1 | Chart shows seats won as a % of seats contested and seats where deposits were lost as a % of seats contested




Scatter plot 2 | The chart plots the States where the BJP won more than 10% seats contested




Scatter plot 3 | The size of the circle corresponds to the seats contested by the BJP as a % of seats available in a State

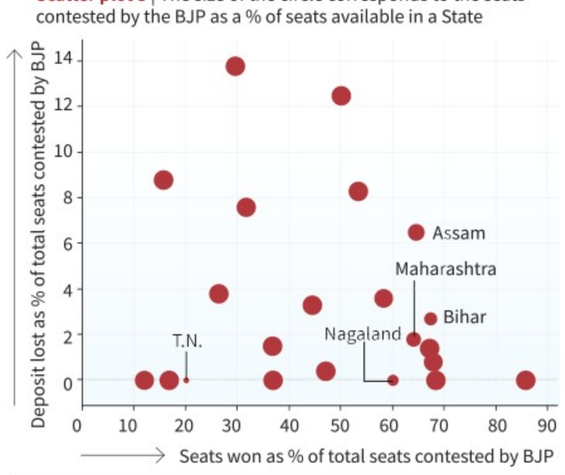
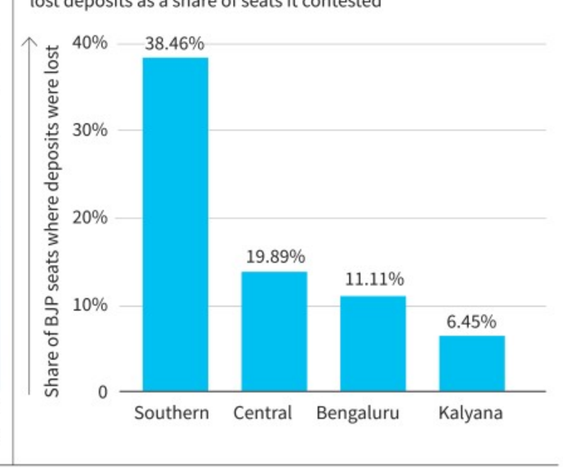



Chart 4 | The chart shows the region-wise seats in which the BJP lost deposits as a share of seats it contested




FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 24, 1973

## Watergate issue: Nixon not to resign

Washington, May 23: The United States President, Mr. Nixon, declared yesterday he would not resign on account of the apparent existence of a wideranging cover-up by his subordinates, but warned that present investigations threaten to damage U.S. national security. "I will not abandon my responsibilities," he declared. "I will continue to do the job I was elected to do." In two statements issued at the White House, Mr. Nixon specifically denied that he knew of the Watergate wiretapping intelligence capabilities and procedures, which of course must "remain secret." This plan was drawn up in 1970, amidst a wave of bomb threats, bombings and campus demonstrations, the President said. It was intended to replace "certain types of undercover FBI operations" that had been suspended in 1966 after many years. Mr. Nixon said these included breaking-and-entering operations "on specified categories of targets in specified situations related to national security." Mr. Nixon said the plan was formulated at his order by the heads of the FBI, the CIA, the Defence Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency. He said the plan was approved tentatively on July 23, 1970 but that approval was withdrawn five days later because FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover strongly objected to it. Copies of the Dean documents have been made available to Senate investigators and the Watergate prosecutors. Mr. Nixon noted that newspapers yesterday headlined portions of the plan that were made public by Senator Stuart Symington, a Missouri Democrat, who is acting Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Mr. Symington has promised to make a censored version of the plan public some time soon.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 24, 1923

## Fiji Indians' disabilities

Poona, May 23: In reply to the Deccan Sabha's resolution asking Government to press for the abolition of the proposed one pound residential tax on Indian residents in Fiji, the Government of India have informed it that the tax has already formed the subject of a representation by the Government of India. The Sabha is also assured that every endeavour is being made to arrange for the publication of the report of Fiji deputation, at the earliest possible date.

## From Page One

## ₹2,000 notes reach banks amid hiccups

Most of the banks claimed that the process remained smooth on day one. "People had some confusion regarding how much currency they can exchange or should they deposit the same in bank or get them exchanged. We managed to solve their queries," said a customer care executive at a HDFC branch at ITO.

Chandra Sekhar Sharma, chief general manager of SBI, Bhubaneswar Circle, said the bank had ₹12,000 crore in ₹500 and ₹200 denomination notes in 64 chests. In the past two days, the SBI had seen estimated deposit of ₹2,000 notes to the tune of ₹50 crore daily at various branches and automated deposit-cum-withdrawal machines (ADWM), Mr. Sharma said.

Banks in Kerala also did not experience any unusual rush, officials said. ''People visited our branches to get the notes exchanged, but no headlong rush was reported," a senior official of the State Bank of India in Thiruvananthapuram said.

Banks in Telangana said some branches saw more than usual footfall, chiefly customers who came to deposit ₹2,000 notes in their accounts.

Most banks, anticipating a rush of customers, had drawn up plans, including operating an additional cash counter, if required. Such measures were, however, not needed as the number of customers was manageable, according to sources in public, private and regional rural banks.

It was a bitter experience for the people at the branches of a few private banks in Andhra Pradesh as officials refused to exchange notes in places such as Rajahmundry and Kakinada.

"We do not have adequate staff to meet the demand from customers seeking exchange of ₹2,000 notes. We are flooded with too many deposits from the account holders," said a senior staff member of a private bank in Rajamahendravaramu.

The situation at public sector banks was smoother. The rush was thin to moderate at many branches in Vijayawada.

*(With inputs from The Hindu bureaus in Kolkata, Thiruvananthapuram, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, and Vijayawada, and PTI)*

## India-Australia ties built on trust: Modi

"Today India is being called a force of global good. Wherever there is a disaster, India stands ready to help. Recently, when the earthquake caused devastation in Turkey, India extended a helping hand through 'Operation Dost'," Mr. Modi said.

Asserting that the strategic partnership between India and Australia is constantly deepening, Mr. Modi said, "We hope the bilateral trade between the two sides will more than double in the next five years". The two countries signed the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement last year. "We are building resilient and reliable supply chains. This will provide momentum to the business of both sides," he said.

There is a geographical distance between India and Australia, but the Indian Ocean connects us, Mr. Modi said and added that no matter how different the two countries are, they are connected at various levels. "Yoga connects us. Cricket is something which has kept us connected for ages...," he said amid loud cheering from the crowd.

The Prime Minister also said the two countries have moved forward in recognising degrees issued by each other and this will benefit students of both sides.

Mr. Modi thanked his Australian counterpart for renaming Harris Park 'Little India'. Harris Park is a hub in Western Sydney where the Indian community celebrates festivals and events such as Deepavali and Australia Day.

Addressing the gathering earlier, Mr. Albanese said Mr. Modi gets a "rock star reception" wherever he goes. "The last time I saw someone on this stage was [American singer] Bruce Springsteen and he did not get the welcome that Prime Minister Modi has got. Prime Minister Modi is the boss," Mr. Albanese said. Springsteen was nicknamed 'boss' by his fans.

## Census: update NPR to enumerate self

The first phase – the houselisting operations and housing census – is to be conducted with simultaneous updating of NPR. Population enumeration is the second and the main phase, which collects details on key social and economic parameters.

According to a collection of reports released by Home Minister Amit Shah on May 21 at the inauguration of a new Census building, "self-enumeration for Census will be provided to only those households that have updated the NPR online". "During self-enumeration in NPR, Aadhaar / mobile number is mandatorily collected," the report said.

The Office of the Registrar of General of India (ORGI), which conducts the Census, has developed a "self-enumeration (SE)" portal which is presently available in English only. The yet-to-be-launched mobile-friendly portal will allow users to register the mobile number in the NPR database, self-enumerate and fill the details under houselisting operations. Respondents can update the details of their family members online without the help of an enumerator for "privacy" and to reduce financial and administrative burden incurred in collection of field data.

# Trinamool, CPI, AAP to skip inauguration of new Parliament building

Congress and other Opposition parties are considering the step; Hardeep Singh Puri reacts to Opposition's objection to Prime Minister inaugurating the building instead of the President

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Trinamool Congress, the Communist Party of India and the Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday announced that they would boycott the inauguration of the new Parliament building by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 28. Sources told *The Hindu* that Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and party general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal had reached out to other Opposition leaders and conveyed their reservation about the Prime Minister inaugurating the building and not the President.

MPs got invites for the function on Tuesday on WhatsApp. "Perhaps they [government] will send in a formal invite. But surely they could have done better," an Opposition MP said.

Trinamool Rajya Sabha leader Derek O'Brien took to Twitter, announcing his party's decision. "Parliament is not just a new building; it is an establishment with old traditions, values, precedents and rules – it is the foundation of Indian democracy. PM Modi doesn't get that. For him, Sunday's inauguration of the new building is all about I, ME, MYSELF. So count us out," he tweeted.

The new building is set to be inaugurated on Sunday, which is also the birth anniversary of V.D. Savarkar. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

CPI Parliamentary Party leader Binoy Viswam said: "Parliament can't be associated in any way with the memory of V.D. Savarkar. And we definitely can't be part of it." May 28 is the birth anniversary of Savarkar.

The AAP said it was "upset" that the Parliament building was not being inaugurated by the President.

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said the government's decision not to invite the President to inaugurate the Parliament building was unacceptable. Under Article 79 of the Constitution, Parliament comprised the President and the the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, he said.

The government reacted strongly to the objections. Housing Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that in 1975, Indira Gandhi had inaugurated the Parliament annexe and in 1987, Rajiv Gandhi the library. "If your [Congress] head of government can inaugurate them, why can't our head of government do the same," he said. He said this was a poor attempt at creating a diversion. "From criticising the new Parliament Building and questioning its very necessity despite many of them advocating for it before but not executing it, Congress president and other worthies are now shifting the goalpost by generously misquoting an article a day from the Constitution!" the Minister tweeted.

*(With PTI inputs)*

# India raises terrorism issue at G-20 meet, lambasts Pakistan

**Peerzada Ashiq**
SRINAGAR

Manoj Sinha

India flagged the issue of state-sponsored terrorism at the G-20 event on Tuesday, and lambasted Pakistan for its bid to oppose the third tourism working group meeting in Srinagar.

Speaking on the sidelines of the meeting at Srinagar's Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC), J&K Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy took potshots at Pakistan, as the high-profile meeting with participation from foreign countries concluded peacefully with "representation from 27 countries".

China, Turkey and Saudi Arabia, all G-20 members, and Egypt, a special invitee, did not attend the meeting after Pakistan objected to India's move to hold a meeting in Srinagar.

"J&K is a part of India. Pakistan has no right to talk about it. The country should rather pay attention towards its own people. Whatever we do is for the benefit of our people. Who is Pakistan to say anything? This is our land, these are our people, and thousands of people have sacrificed their lives for it," Mr. Reddy said.

On China's decision not to attend the Srinagar meeting, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said that "does not make any difference". "China not coming is China's loss, not India's," he said.

Mr. Sinha raised the issue of state-sponsored terrorism. "For almost 30 years, this land of peaceful co-existence of almost all religious sects had to suffer state-sponsored terrorism by our neighbouring country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi through development schemes, which empower masses and effective administration, isolated the terror eco-system that thrived with the support from across the border," he said.

# Establish links with 168 unconnected border villages: Shah

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Tuesday that special efforts should be made to establish connectivity with 168 "unconnected" border villages. The villages are located along the Chinese border in Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Ladakh.

Mr. Shah was speaking at the inauguration of a workshop on the Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) approved on February 15. The VVP will cover 2,967 villages in 46 border blocks of 19 districts in four States and one Union Territory along the Chinese border. The workshop was organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and was attended by State and Central government officials.

Mr. Shah said the government has taken several initiatives to improve the border infrastructure and the VVP has been launched to "stop migration from border villages". He added that District Collectors in border districts should take at least five initiatives to give impetus to VVP such as promotion of tourism, agriculture, handicrafts and cooperatives and encouraging home-stays.

The meeting was attended by Director General, Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force.

# No record of office expenses for panel on OBC quota for 2 years: RTI

**Abhinay Lakshman**
NEW DELHI

The government has no records of office expenditure incurred for the Justice G. Rohini Commission for the sub-categorisation of Other Backward Classes (OBC) since September 2021, according to replies to Right to Information requests filed by *The Hindu*.

The commission was formed in 2017 to sub-categorise the nearly 3,000 OBC caste groups and recommend a quota break-up for them. It was initially given 12 weeks to submit a report in this regard but has so far received 14 extensions – the latest being in January.

The panel is headed by a former Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court, Justice G. Rohini (retd), and consists of J.K. Bajaj of the Centre for Policy Studies as a member.

Justice (retd) G. Rohini

In addition to this, a Director of the Anthropological Survey of India and the Registrar-General of India are ex-officio members, while a Joint Secretary of the Social Justice Ministry is the Secretary of the Commission.

Expenditure records accessed under the Right to Information Act, 2005 showed that ₹3,75,53,250 was spent on salaries and allowances for the Chairperson and member and ₹26,04,775 was spent on salaries for consultants from October 2017 to April 2023.

While the government said it spent ₹7,20,000 on "office expenditure and others" for the panel between October 2017 and August 2021, it said that it has no records of office expenditure after that period.

The expenditure for the commission had been taken care of by the National Commission for Backward Classes from October 2017 to August 2021. After this, the money started coming directly from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE).

**Ministry's response**

In response to specific queries about office expenditure incurred by the Commission after August 2021, the MoSJE said in the RTI reply, "The information may be treated as nil", adding that this was because it was not maintained with the information officer concerned.

Questions sent to the MoSJE regarding further details of expenditure incurred on the Commission's working have not yet elicited a response.

## BSF intercepts fifth Pakistani drone in four days in Punjab

**Vikas Vasudeva**
CHANDIGARH

The Border Security Force (BSF) has intercepted a drone loaded with around 2 kg of drugs in the Amritsar district of Punjab, along the international border with Pakistan.

BSF troops shot down the drone around 9 p.m. on Monday near Bhaini Rajputana village in Amritsar district, according to an official statement.

This is the fifth reported interception of a drone vehicle along the Punjab border since May 19.

Amid persistent concern over drugs, money, weapons, and explosives being pushed from across the Indo-Pak border from Pakistan into Indian territory over drones, at least 22 drones were captured by the BSF in the year 2022. The BSF is involved in safeguarding the 553-kilometre-long Indo-Pakistan International Border of Punjab.

# Candlelight vigil marks a month of stir by wrestlers

**Samridhi Tewari**
NEW DELHI

On a windy Tuesday, marking a month of wrestlers' agitation against BJP MP and Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, people from all walks of life – including khap members, farmers, and students – joined the wrestlers in a candlelight march from Jantar Mantar to India Gate.

"On [May] 28th, when the Parliament building is inaugurated, we need support from women... you are our backbone," wrestler Vinesh Phogat said as she lit a candle, standing beside fellow wrestlers Sakshi Malik, Bajrang Punia, and many others.

Olympian Punia, who also held a candle, said, "The khap mahapanchayat has decided to hold a panchayat in front of the new Parliament building on May 28, when it is inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. We want more women to stand in support with us, this is a fight for India's daughters."

**Going strong:** Protesting wrestlers at the candlelight vigil near India Gate against WFI Chief. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

"Every girl, who was once oppressed and harassed, will feel empowered today, as more women are now standing up against what is wrong," Ms. Phogat said.

Holding two candles amid the massive crowd, 15-year-old Prem, a wrestler and student from Gurugram in Haryana, said he boarded a bus along with his wrestler friends to Jantar Mantar to mark his presence at the candlelight march. "It's been a month, our sisters have fought for endless nights. If he is not punished, we will continue to protest," he said.

Raising slogans like "Sakshi Malik *lade chalo*" and "Vinesh Phogat *lade chalo*", the protesters carried their own instruments and sang different jingles.

"*Betiyon tum sangharsh karo, hum tumhare sath hain*", (In this fight, we shall stand with our daughters) many said as the protest came to an end.

# CAG team works to increase synergy among Ministries

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

A team headed by Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General (Report Central) Rakesh Mohan on Tuesday held a brainstorming interactive session with the senior officers of Union Ministries to facilitate the identification of systemic issues, financial irregularities, and potential areas for improvement.

Addressing the participants, Mr. Mohan said there was a growing acknowledgement of a required synergy between the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) and the executive. It could help address deficiencies and enhance governance mechanisms, leading to the effective utilisation of public resources to optimise the desired outcomes. "This partnership can thus promote a culture of fiscal discipline, good governance, and responsible decision-making, ultimately benefiting the citizens of India," he said.

**APPEAL**

Mast. Dhilshanth aged 6 years, suffering from Primary Immuno Deficiency X-Linked Agammaglobulinemia has to undergo Haploidentical Bone Marrow Transplantation as the only curative treatment. The total medical management and supportive care is Rs.20,00,000/-. Please donate and support him as his family is extremely poor and cannot afford this huge expenditure at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. He needs your contribution and blessings. Donations sent by Ch/D.D favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No: 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **Women's Welfare Syndicate** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. E-Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com**
Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

**WWS**

## Congress demands 'White Paper' on note ban

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday alleged that the move to withdraw ₹2,000 currency notes will end up facilitating those who hoard black money, and reiterated its demand for a White Paper on the demonetisation exercise.

"We demand a White Paper on why ₹2,000 notes were introduced and who all were saying that all black money will finish. Why was the decision to take back ₹2,000 notes made? We demand a composite White Paper on this biggest loot in Independent India," said Congress spokesperson Gourav Vallabh at a press conference.

"We want to ask the government that on the eighth anniversary of note ban, who were the people who had suggested the introduction of ₹2,000 notes in the first place and why these notes were brought in," he added.

**Unorganised sector**

Mr. Vallabh said as on March 31, there were a total of 181 crore ₹2,000 currency notes in circulation totalling ₹3.62 lakh crore.

The sudden decision, he said, will once again put the unorganised sector under stress. He said six crore micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and 11 crore farmers will have to "stand in line" for exchanging the few ₹2,000 notes they might have.

# Trinamool to oppose Delhi Bill, asks all parties to do so

Bengal CM says it is an opportunity to defeat the BJP before the 2024 Lok Sabha election, says she is apprehensive that saffron party will change the name of the country and its Constitution

**The Hindu Bureau**
KOLKATA

Mamata Banerjee welcomes Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann in Kolkata on Tuesday. PTI

Backing Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in his fight against an Ordinance brought by the Centre to divest his government of its authority to appoint and transfer officials, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday urged the Opposition parties to oppose the Bill to replace it in the Rajya Sabha. Ms. Banerjee said the Ordinance had provided a "big opportunity" to defeat the BJP ahead of the Lok Sabha election in 2024.

The Trinamool Congress chairperson said her party would oppose the Bill and all Opposition parties should join hands to stall the Bill to give a strong message to the people.

Ms. Banerjee said such Ordinances were dangerous for the country. "We are afraid that they will change the name of the country... We are afraid that they will change the Constitution," she said at a press conference with Mr. Kejriwal and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann.

Mr. Kejriwal said the Supreme Court order that the Delhi government could make laws and administer civil services in the national capital came after a fight of eight long years, but the BJP government at the Centre overturned it in eight days. "They have made a joke of democracy," he said. He said the BJP was trying to disturb governments run by rival parties by buying MLAs and using Central investigation agencies or Governors and through Ordinance.

"This is not my fight alone. It is the fight of 140 crore people. It is the fight against the arrogance of the BJP that if people do not vote for the BJP, they will not let the Opposition government work," he said. He said in several States such as West Bengal and Punjab, the Governors were trying to interfere with the functioning of the State governments.

Mr. Kejriwal said the police had misbehaved with Delhi's former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia while producing him before a court in Delhi.

"This is not the way to treat a Deputy Chief Minister. He is an accused, not a convict," the Delhi Chief Minister said.

## Cong. State units wary of backing AAP

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

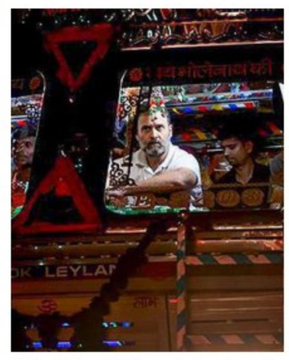
Senior Congress leaders from Delhi and Punjab met at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) on the issue of support to the AAP in its fight against the Centre's Ordinance that effectively negates the Supreme Court verdict which gave the Delhi government the power over services. Partap Singh Bajwa, Ajay Maken and Sandeep Dikshit were among those who attended Tuesday's meeting.

In a statement, posted on his Twitter handle, Mr. Maken explained the political and legal reasons why the Congress should not back Mr. Kejriwal. Mr. Maken said that Mr. Kejriwal sought the Congress's support but in the past, along with the BJP, had passed a resolution requesting the Union government to withdraw the Bharat Ratna bestowed upon former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Mr. Kejriwal backed the BJP both inside and outside Parliament on the Jammu & Kashmir issue, supported it during the move to impeach Chief Justice of India Dipak Mishra, he said. The AAP was the first to implement the controversial anti-farmer laws and the party also opposed the Opposition's candidate for the Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairperson, he said.

## Rahul runs up miles again, listening to truckers this time

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI



Rahul Gandhi travels in a truck to Chandigarh from Delhi. PTI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi took a truck ride from Delhi to Chandigarh to understand the problems of over 90 lakh truckers across the country, the Congress said on Tuesday.

Dressed in his now-trademark white T-shirt, Mr. Gandhi was seen speaking to drivers at a *dhaba* (roadside eatery) on the National Highway on Monday night, and praying at a gurdwara in Ambala on Tuesday morning.

"People's leader @RahulGandhi ji reached among the truck drivers to know their problems. Rahul ji travelled with them from Delhi to Chandigarh," the Congress tweeted.

"According to media reports, there are about 90 lakh truck drivers on the Indian roads. They have their own problems. Rahul ji did the work of listening to their *Mann Ki Baat*," the party added.

**On way to Shimla**

Party insiders said Mr. Gandhi was on his way to Shimla to spend some time with his mother, Sonia Gandhi, and on the way he decided to listen to the problems of truck drivers.

Ram Kumar, station house officer of Baldev Nagar police station, Ambala city, said around 4.30 a.m., the Congress leader got down from a truck near Gurdwara Manji Sahib on Grand Trunk Road. He went inside the gurdwara and paid obeisance and spent a few minutes there. He had tea at the *langar* at the gurdwara and then boarded a truck for Chandigarh, Mr. Kumar said.

Sharing on her Twitter handle pictures of Mr. Gandhi travelling in a truck and meeting with truckers, the Congress social media department head, Supriya Shrinate, said, "Rahul Gandhi is a different person. Today he is committed to bridging the widening gap between the general public and the government in this country."

"Whether it is sitting with the truck drivers in the heat or travelling and listening to their problems all night, the hope for a better future has risen," Ms. Shrinate said.

Mr. Gandhi has so far met students, civil services aspirants, women's groups and others in the past couple of months.

## Cong. attacks SEBI over Adani report by top court

**Press Trust of India**
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday alleged that a rule prohibiting investment by opaque funds was done away with by SEBI on "weak grounds", and said the market regulator cannot run with the hares by diluting reporting requirements and hunt with the hounds pretending to identify beneficial ownership in opaque tax havens.

Earlier, a report claimed that the SC-appointed committee scrutinised SEBI's dropping of a key regulatory requirement for FPIs months before it developed suspicions on Adani group shareholding.

## Opposition unity is vital today: BSP MP

**The Hindu Bureau**
LUCKNOW

Bahujan Samaj Party MP Kunwar Danish Ali on Tuesday said the need for Opposition unity in the country was greater than than ever before.

"The need for Opposition unity is greater today than ever before," Mr. Ali said on Twitter, enclosing a picture from 2018 of the swearing-in of the Congress-Janata Dal(S) government in Karnataka.

**NATIONAL HYDROLOGY PROJECT (NHP)**
**STATE PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (SPMU), NHP-ODISHA**
H.P. Administrative Building, Delta Square, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751012
Email: odishagwhp3@gmail.com

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**
**Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement**
IFB No:ODISHA(SW)/SHDC-HW/NHP/-ODISHA/IFB-02/2023-24 Date : 20.05.2023

**'e'-Procurement Notice**

The Chief Engineer & Director, GWD and Nodal Officer, NHP-Odisha invites tenders through e-Procurement platform online from eligible bidders for the work "Procurement of Server, Workstation/PC, other IT hardware and software and network and Communication equipment for SHDC, Odisha" (Under NCB). Bidding documents are available online on **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** which is free of cost. Bidders are advised to participate in the bidding process as per the instruction given in the bidding document.

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of the work | Procurement of Server, Workstation/PC, other IT hardware and software and network and Communication equipment for SHDC, Odisha |
| Bid Reference No. | ODISHA(SW)/SHDC-HW/NHP/-ODISHA/IFB-02/2023-24 |
| Procurement Plan Ref.no | Package No. NHP-2021-2022-OD-742978 |
| Bid documents | Can be downloaded from Website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.** |
| Price of Bid Document | Free of cost |
| Bid Document Publish Date | 24.05.2023 at 11:00 Hrs |
| Bid Document Download Starting date & time | 25.05.2023 at 11:00 Hrs |
| Document Download Closing date & time | 23.06.2023 at 15:00 Hrs |
| Bid Clarification Starting date & time | 26.05.2023 at 11:00 Hrs |
| Bid Clarification Closing date & time | 07.06.2023 at 15:00 Hrs |
| Pre Bid Meeting date & time. | 08.06.2023 at 11:30 Hrs |
| Start date of e-Bid submission. | 15.06.2023 at 11:00 Hrs |
| Last date of e-Bid submission. | 23.06.2023 at 15:00 Hrs |
| Time & Date of Online opening (Technical Part) of bids in the portal. | 23.06.2023 at 15:30 Hrs |

Further details can be seen in the web site **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

**CED, GWD & Nodal Officer, SPMU, NHP-Odisha, Bhubaneswar.**
A-167 OIPR-32407/11/0004/2324

**MALABAR CANCER CENTRE**
**(POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY SCIENCES & RESEARCH)**
NABH Accredited (an autonomous centre under Government of Kerala
Thalassery, Kannur, Kerala - 670 103,Phone :+91 490 2399207, 2355881
Fax: 91 490 2355880,Email: mcctly@gmail.com, Web: www.mcc.kerala.gov.in
E62613/MCC/216/2023/E2/GAD 16/05/2023

**FOR EXISTING AND ARISING VACANCIES**
Immediately require on permanent basis :

**TECHNICIAN NUCLEAR MEDICINE**
Scale of Pay - 35400-112400, Level 6 of 7th Central Pay Revision

Online Applications are invited for the afore mentioned posts on permanent basis. The last date for submitting online application is 15.06.2023 and last date for submitting printed copy of online application is 20.06.2023.
MCC/3082/2020-CCT-ACADEMIC 17/05/2023

**IMMEDIATELY WANTED – SENIOR RESIDENTS**
Malabar Cancer Centre invites online applications for the post of Senior Residents (on contract) in Radiation Oncology, Pathology, Surgical Oncology, Clinical Hematology & Medical Oncology and Anesthesiology.The last date for submitting online application is 31/05/2023 at 05.00 PM. Details are available in www.mcc.kerala.gov.in Sd/- Director

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice**

**Tender No :** SE/PHC/KKD/23/2023-24, JJM - CWSS to Vellamunda, Thondernadu, Thavinjal and Panamaram Pts- Supply, Commissioning of Floating Pantoon Intake with "Submerged type Pump sets" at Banasura Dam, Construction and Commissioning of 25 MLD WTP at Vellamunda Pt. Supply & Laying of 700 mm DI K9 RWPM, Supply, and Commissioning of 1000 KVA Transformer with allied accessories at intake and 200 KVA Transformer at WTP site, Supply and Erection of CW Pump set, **EMD :** Rs. 500000, **Tender fee :** Rs. 16540+18%GST, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 16-06-2023 04:00:pm, **Phone :** 0495-2371046 Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer,
KWA-JB-GL-6-334-2023-24 PH Circle, Kozhikode

**TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LTD**
(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Nigam Bhavan, 1st floor, sector-16
Gandhinagar-382016, Gujarat

**Tender Notice**

The tender is invited by Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd. (TCGL), for the appointment of agency for : **"Development of Tourist facilities at Thol, Mehsana."** Estimated Cost of the Project Rs.29,75,93,863/-.The interested bidders/ agencies may download the tender document form the website: www.nprocure.com from 24/05/2023 onwards. Last date of submission on online: 23/06/2023 up to 3.00pm. And Technical Bid (Hard Copy) is 27/06/2023 up to 3:00 pm. Tender may also be referred on www.gujarattourism.com

Managing Director of TCGL reserves the right to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Managing Director

**Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited**
*(A Govt. of India Enterprise & A Group Company of IndianOil)*
[CIN – L40101TN1965GOI005389]
Regd. Office: No.536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 018
Website: www.cpcl.co.in Email ID: investors@cpcl.co.in Phone No.: (044)24346807

**Transfer of Equity Shares of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) to Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF**

The Notice is published pursuant to the provisions of The Companies Act, 2013 read with the Investors Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("The Rules") as amended from time to time.

The Rules, inter-alia, provide for transfer of all shares in respect of which dividend has remained unclaimed for seven consecutive years to the Investors Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) set up by the Central Government. Accordingly, the shareholders who have not claimed the dividend for the Financial Year 2015-2016 and all other Dividends declared by the Company for 7 consecutive years thereafter, the shares held by them are liable to be transferred to the IEPF. The Company has sent individual communication on 20.05.2023 to those shareholders at their latest available address. The Company has also uploaded the details of such shareholders along with details of shares due for transfer to IEPF on its website at www.cpcl.co.in. Shareholders are requested to refer to the web link https://cpcl.co.in/investors/share-holder-information/iepf/ to verify the details of the shares liable to be transferred to IEPF. Further, it was also highlighted in the Annual Report 2021-2022 that as per Section 124 (6) of Companies Act, 2013 read with the Rules made there under all shares in respect of which dividend has not been claimed for 7 consecutive years or more shall be transferred by the company in the name of IEPF.

Notice is hereby given to all such shareholders to make an application to the Company / Registrar & Transfer Agent (RTA) viz., KFin Technologies Limited by 28.09.2023 for claiming the unpaid dividend for the Financial Year 2015-2016 onwards so that the shares are not liable to be transferred to the IEPF. It may please be noted that if no reply is received by the Company or the RTA by 28.09.2023 the Company will be compelled to transfer the abovementioned Unpaid Equity Dividend and shares on 06.10.2023 to the IEPF, without any further notice and no claim shall lie against the Company. The shareholders holding shares in physical form and whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Authority, may note that upon such transfer the original share certificate(s) lying with them will stand automatically cancelled and deemed non-negotiable. The Company will be preparing new share certificate(s) in lieu of such original share certificate(s) for transfer of the same to IEPF Authority.

It may also be noted that the shares transferred to IEPF, including all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, can be claimed back from the IEPF Authority after following the procedures prescribed under the Rules. For any further clarification on the matter, please contact Mr.Mohd. Mohsinuddin, KFin Technologies Limited, Selenium Tower B, Plot Number 31-32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad – 500 032; Toll Free No.: 1800 309 4001; E-mail Address: mohd.mohsin@kfintech.com / einward.ris@kfintech.com.

**For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited**
Sd/-
Place : Chennai **P. Shankar**
Dated : 22nd May, 2023 **Company Secretary**

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र / LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन / INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM- 695547, केरल / KERALA

**रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति का आमंत्रण / INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION - OF - INTEREST**

भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिए तथा उनकी ओर से प्रधान, क्रय व भंडार, द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र (एल पी एस सी), वलियमला, तिरुवनंतपुरम, केरल **प्रस्ताव–निवेदन जारी करने के निमित्त चयन हेतु नामी एवं भरोसेमंद सेवा प्रदाताओं से तकनीकी कार्य पैकेज गतिविधियों के लिए रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति** का आमंत्रण करते हैं। ये गतिविधियाँ एल पी एस सी, वलियमला में निष्पादित की जानी हैं और रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति के विवरणों के अनुसार, 24 तकनीकी कौशल सेटों में इनकी आवश्यकता है।

For and on behalf of the President of India, Head, Purchase and Stores, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Valiamala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala invites **Expression of Interest (EoI) from reputed and reliable Service Providers, to be short listed to issue Request for proposal (RFP) for technical Work Package activities**. These activities are required to be carried out at LPSC, Valiamala required in 24 technical skill sets as detailed in the EoI.

सक्षम एवं भरोसेमंद सेवा प्रदाताओं से अपनी रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति सील–बंद कवर में इसके ऊपर **"तकनीकी कार्य पैकेज गतिविधियों के लिए प्रस्ताव–निवेदन जारी करने के लिए चयन हेतु रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति"** लिखकर 21.06.2023 को 14.30 बजे तक या उससे पहले **प्रधान, क्रय एवं भंडार, द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र (एल पी एस सी), वलियमला, तिरुवनंतपुरम–695 547** को प्रस्तुत करने का अनुरोध किया जाता है।

Potential and reliable Service Providers are requested to submit their EoI in a sealed cover superscribing **"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SHORT LISTING OF SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR ISSUE OF RFP FOR TECHNICAL WORK PACKAGE ACTIVITIES"** addressed to **Head, Purchase and Stores, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Valiamala, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 547** on or before 21.06.2023, 14.30 hrs.

चयन हेतु विस्तृत निबंधन एवं शर्तें, अर्हता मानदंड तथा चयन हेतु दिशा–निर्देश हमारे बेवसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** / **www.lpsc.gov.in** पद पर उपलब्ध हैं। इच्छुक प्रत्याशित सेवा प्रदाता हमारे संदर्भ सं. TL65 20220378701 का उल्लेख करते हुए **21.06.2023 को 14.30 बजे तक या उससे पहले** रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति में उल्लिखित पते पर रुचि की अभिव्यक्ति भेज सकते हैं।

Detailed Terms and Conditions, eligibility norms for short listing, guidelines for short-listing are available in our website **www.isro.gov.in** / **www.lpsc.gov.in**. Interested prospective Service Providers can furnish their Expression of Interest quoting our reference No. TL65 20220378701 **on or before 21.06.2023, 14.30 Hrs** to the address mentioned in the EoI.

यदि कोई शुद्धिपत्र होगी तो उसे केवल हमारे वेबसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** / **www.lpsc.gov.in** पर प्रकाशित किया जाएगा।

Corrigendum, if any will be published in our website : **www.isro.gov.in** / **www.lpsc.gov.in** only.

हस्ताक्षरित / Sd/-, प्रधान, क्रय व भंडार / Head, Purchase & Stores
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**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**
SIGNAL & TELECOMMUNICATION
MADURAI DIVISION
**E-TENDER NOTICE**
**No. U-SG-01-2023-24**
**Dated: 20.05.2023**

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Southern Railway, Madurai Division for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the following work as per detailed tender notice given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderer(s) intending to apply need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted. The date and time of closing as mentioned against each work. All relevant credentials & supporting documents are to be scanned and uploaded along with the offer.

**Name of the work:** Provision of Gate Telephone with Voice Logger at 362 LC Gates over Madurai Division, **Closing Date and time: 14.06.2023, 11:00 hrs.**

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**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**
**(PROJECT ORGANISATION)**
**E-Tender Notice**
**No.Proj_MS_OHEBonding_2304**
**Dated: 20.05.2023**

Name of the Work : Provision of OHE Bonding in MS-TBM, MAS - AJJ, AJJ-JTJ & MAS-GDR Sections of Chennai Division.
Estimated cost of the work : ₹ **43,79,486/-.**
Bidding System : Single Packet Tender.
Earnest Money (EMD) : ₹ **87,600/-.**
Completion period : **12 Months.** Last Date and Time of online submission (closing) of tender document : **12.06.2023 up to 14.00 Hrs.**
Website address, time and date from which tender documents will be available : On Indian Railway Website i.e, **www.ireps.gov.in** from **20.05.2023.**
Validity of offers : **45 Days.**
**Note:** The detailed Tender Notice, Tender document along with terms & conditions and if any corrigendum to tender is issued can be accessed through **(www.ireps.gov.in)**

**Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Project, Chetpet, Chennai - 31**

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**OFFICE OF THE A.C.E (P)-4**
**DELHI JAL BOARD, GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI ROOM NO. 31, B-BUILDING, JHANDEWALAN, NEW DELHI-110005**
Mob:- 9650094325 E-mail Id:-djbwaterbody@gmail.com

**"STOP CORONA: Wear Face Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"**
**PRESS NIT NO- 03/WB-I/2022-23**

| S. No. | Name of Work | Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender | Earnest Money (EMD | Tender Fee | Date of Release of Tender in E-Procurement Solution & Tender Id No. | Last date/ time of receipt of tender E-Procurement Solution |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Supply of 4 MGD treated effluent from Kapashera STP to Pushpanjali Farm Houses Bijwasan Under ACE (P)-4 | Item rate | Rs.4,56,500/- (Rupees Four Lakh Fifty Six Thousand Five Hundered only.) | Rs. 1500/- | 19.05.2023 Tender ID 2023_ DJB_241357_1 | 09.06.2023 at 03:00 PM |
| 2. | Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning of Submersible Pump set for Lifting Effluent Water at Narela STP | Item rate | Rs. 3,68,400/- (Rupees Three Lakh Sixty Eight Thousand Four Hundred only) | Rs. 1500/- | 19.05.2023 Tender ID 2023_ DJB_241357_2 | 09.06.2023 at 03:00 PM |
| 3. | Supply of treated effluent from Mehrauli STP to DLF Chhattarpur, Satbari and Radhe Mohan Drive Farm Houses under ACE(E and M)-I | Item rate | Rs.9,31,000/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Thirty One Thousand Only) | Rs. 1500/- | 19.05.2023 Tender ID 2023_ DJB_241357_3 | 09.06.2023 at 03:00 PM |

Further details in this regard can be seen at **https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in**
**ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)**
**Advt. No. J.S.V. 42(2023-24)** **Executive Engineer (WB)-I**

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## INBRIEF

### Two killed in blaze at Bengal firecracker warehouse

Two persons were killed in a fire at a warehouse where firecrackers were illegally stored, at English Bazaar town in Malda district of West Bengal. The fire was triggered by an explosion early in the morning. With this, 16 people have died in the past one week in explosions and fire in illegal firecracker units or godowns in the State. Speaking on the incident, Chairperson of the English Bazaar municipality, Krishnendu Narayan Chowdhury, said the fire had spread to other shops. Mr. Chowdhury said a labourer and a security guard died in the fire, which started in the morning and raged till afternoon.

### Probe on into killings on Assam-Meghalaya boundary

A judicial panel probing the killing of six people at a disputed spot on the Assam-Meghalaya boundary in November 2022 is scheduled to resume the examination of the witnesses on Thursday. Officials in the two States said the proceedings may continue for two more days depending on the number of witnesses produced by Assam's Director-General of Police. Meghalaya had set up a judicial inquiry commission led by retired judge T. Vaiphei to probe the firing at Mukroh – Assam calls the place Mukhrow or Moikrang. Five of the victims were Meghalaya villagers and one an Assam Forest guard.

### Forest guard shot dead by poachers in Odisha's Similipal

An on-duty forest guard in the Similipal Tiger Reserve of Odisha was killed by poachers on Monday night. The forest guard has been identified as Bimal Kumar Jena, 35, posted in the Baunsakhal beat of the Nawna range of the tiger reserve. Jena and team were patrolling the boundary areas of Pithabata South and Nawna North range, when they stumbled upon the poachers. In the scuffle that followed, Jena was shot in the chest and killed on the spot. The Forest Department has identified 10 suspects, two of whom have already been arrested. A country-made pistol was seized.

# Women bag top four ranks in Civil Services Examination

Ishita Kishore from Greater Noida gets first rank; Garima Lohia from Buxar comes second; UPSC recommends 933 candidates for the IAS, IFS, IPS and Central Services Groups A and B

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Women have scooped up the top four ranks in the Civil Services Examination, 2022 conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Results announced on Tuesday showed that among the top 20 ranks, 12 were secured by women.

Ishita Kishore, 26, who graduated from Sri Ram College of Commerce of Delhi University, secured the first rank. The Greater Noida resident said she was overjoyed, as in her first two attempts, she could not clear the preliminary round.

Ms. Kishore, daughter of a former Indian Air Force officer, credited her success to the unconditional support her family gave her.

She worked as an adviser at a multi-national firm for two years before deciding to sit for the examination.

**Moment to savour:** Ishita Kishore celebrates her achievement with family members and relatives in Greater Noida on Tuesday. PTI

Talking of her preparation strategy, Ms. Kishore, who took political science and international relations as her optional subject, said, "Though there is a lot of information available on the Internet, you should follow only one website for current affairs. I trusted my writing skills and did a lot of writing practice for the Mains because the exam pattern is so draining; it is important that you have the stamina."

Second rank holder Garima Lohia, 24, who cleared the exam in her second attempt, is from Buxar in Bihar and graduated from Kirori Mal College of Delhi University.

Uma Harathi, 28, from Telangana and Smriti Mishra, 24, from Uttar Pradesh secured the third and fourth ranks, respectively.

A total of 933 candidates were recommended by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for appointment to the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Central Services Group A and Group B.

The successful candidates include 99 from the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category, 263 from the Other Backward Classes (OBC), 154 from the Scheduled Castes (SC), 72 from the Scheduled Tribes (ST) and 345 from the General Category.

According to a press statement by the UPSC, there are 180 vacancies in the IAS, 38 in the IFS, 200 in the IPS and 604 in the Central Services.

# '73% Smart City projects completed'

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The government on Tuesday said that more than 90% of the funds allocated under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) have been utilised till now, while 73% of the projects have been completed. As of May 1, a total of ₹38,400 crore was released under the mission, of which ₹35,261 crore has been utilised, Union Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri informed a Parliamentary Consultative Committee.

Hardeep Singh Puri

The SCM has around 7,800 projects worth ₹1.8 lakh crore, of which more than 5,700 projects worth ₹1.1 lakh crore have been completed, Mr. Puri said, adding that all remaining projects were expected to be completed by June 30, 2024.

The mission, launched in June 2015, got a year's extension last month. Only 22 out of 100 cities have been able to finish all projects commissioned under it. The implementation is monitored by an Apex Committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. It regularly reports on the progress of projects through the Real Time Geographical Management Information System.

A Smart City Advisory Forum (SCAF) has also been established at the city level to advise and enable collaboration among various stakeholders. So far, the smart cities have convened more than 756 meetings of SCAF.

For each smart city, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) has also been created to plan, appraise, approve, release funds, implement, manage, operate, monitor and evaluate the Smart City development projects.

# INSACOG has not put out weekly bulletin since March 27

**Bindu Shajan Perappadan**
**Jacob Koshy**
NEW DELHI

**Sequencing has dipped because fewer samples were being made available to network-labs, says DBT Secretary**

India appears to have slowed down on sequencing genomes of COVID-19 variants. The India SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG), a multi-laboratory, multi-agency, pan-India network tasked with sequencing, and keeping an eye out for new SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern, has not published a single bulletin since March 27.

Earlier, the agency would publish reports once a week. The bulletins provided information on the circulating variants of COVID-19, States that were seeing a surge in the contagious variants and information on whether SARS-CoV-2 variants linked to major outbreaks internationally had been found in the country.

While December 2022 saw four bulletins on the 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th of the month, January 2023 saw bulletins on the 2nd and 9th. February saw no bulletins; March had bulletin releases on the 13th, 20th and the 27th of the month. April and May (so far) had no bulletins for the public.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, a top official from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), which oversees INSACOG, said that a new bulletin was expected later this week. Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, DBT, said sequencing had dipped because fewer samples were being made available to network labs from hospitals and medical colleges for sequencing (as reported cases were declining). "There are no specific variants of significant concern with XBB variants dominating," he added.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that countries should not look away from COVID-19 and on May 20, launched a global network to help protect people from infectious disease threats through the power of pathogen genomics.

**Surveillance network**

"The International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN) will provide a platform to connect countries and regions, improving systems for collecting and analysing samples, using these data to drive public health decision-making, and sharing that information more broadly," it said.

The Health Ministry had written to the States and Union Territories warning against letting up on surveillance measures and asking them to keep up with testing.

Data from the genome sequencing laboratories is analysed as per the field data trends to study the links (if any) between emerging genomic variants and disease trends.

The surveillance network aids in forecasting super-spreader events, outbreaks and strengthening public health interventions across the country to help in breaking the chains of transmission.

Linking this data with the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) data and patients' symptoms allows a better understanding of the viral infection dynamics, morbidity and mortality trends, said INSACOG.

# India gives Bangladesh key rail infra

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

To further strengthen bilateral relationship between India and Bangladesh, the Ministry of Railways in India handed over 20 broad-gauge locomotives to its eastern neighbour.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the government had also offered Bangladesh the use of the IT system deployed by PM-GATI SHAKTI scheme, which has 1,600 layers of information based on satellite imagery. "The information which can be accessed layer by layer pinpoints exact location of rivers, forests, towns and rail links; so planning can be streamlined," he said.

Ashwini Vaishnaw

In keeping with the requirements of Bangladesh Railway, the locomotives have been suitably modified by the Indian side. These locomotives will help handle the increasing volume of passenger and freight train operations in Bangladesh, a Railways spokesperson said. In June 2020, India had provided 10 locomotives to Bangladesh as grant.

The Indian Railways is playing a vital role in improving and strengthening rail connectivity across the border and improving trade between both the countries, the Minister said.

Trade between the countries via rail has seen a consistent growth with interchange of close to 100 cargo trains a month. Approximately 2.66 tonnes of cargo was sent to Bangladesh in the previous financial year.

# Cheetah cub dies in Kuno Park

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

One more cheetah, this time a cub, died at the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh, wildlife authorities said on Tuesday.

The two-month-old cub was one of four born to Jwala, who was among the set of eight cheetahs imported from Namibia.

The likely cause of death, officials said, was "from weakness", with a press note from the Centre stating that the two-month-old cub was the "smallest and weakest of the litter".

Literature and experience from Africa suggests that cheetah cubs, in the wild, have a survival rate of 10%, and roughly the same fraction make it to adulthood, the government's press release noted.

This is the fourth cheetah to have died in India since 20 of the animals were relocated from Namibia and South Africa respectively to the KNP.

**The cub was one of four born to the cheetah Jwala, who was imported from Namibia**

Earlier this month, an adult female, Daksha, died following injuries involving a skirmish among the animals. Two other animals, Sasha and Uday, died in February and April, respectively, from a renal infection and cardiovascular problems, respectively. Daksha's death had brought the total number of adult cheetahs to 17.

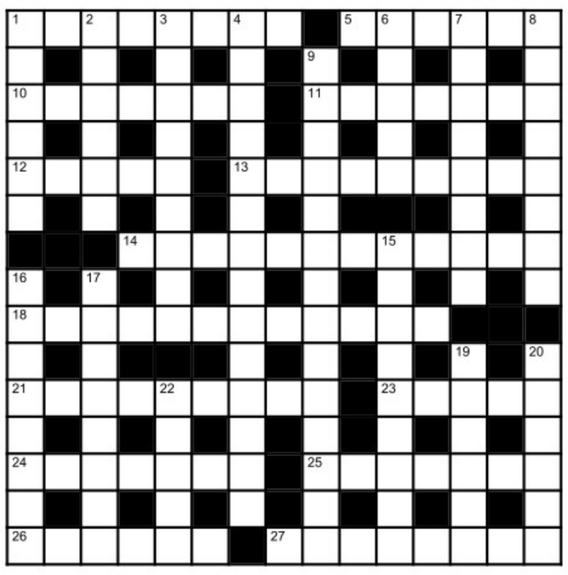
"The typical mortality [in a litter] of tiger cubs is around 50% and wild cheetahs is 90%. So, it wouldn't be surprising to see more deaths," S.P. Yadav, Director, National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), the organisation tasked with coordinating Project Cheetah, told *The Hindu*.

## TH CROSSWORD + 13873

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



**Across**

**1** Discouraged to drink and drive (8)
**5** Make-up is marvellous, most gorgeous (6)
**10** Toxin in container broken by clumsy lout (7)
**11** Destruction caused by reactionary men in rebellious row (7)
**12** Students he encouraged showing brilliance (5)
**13** Einstein's analysis about essence of gravity is thorough (9)
**14** Runs after girl abducted by monstrous hoodlum in confusion (6-6)
**18** Take a gem deviously with a plan and escape (4,1,7)
**21** Like to embrace girl hurt about making a bloomer (9)
**23** Contradict opinion endlessly (5)
**24** Exceptionally strong guy working with head of Mossad in Middle Eastern country (4,3)
**25** Juice is fresh and cold, a little tangy (7)
**26** Harry returned to pick up old article about Australian lizard (6)
**27** Greedy head of monarchs ousted, mutineers went berserk (8)

**Down**

**1** Shame seabed's polluted (6)
**2** Top opener for Bangladesh dismissed after wicket gets more damp (6)
**3** Stop unionist interrupting visit at a plant (9)
**4** Crime lord on launch filled with drugs gets a sense of dread (7,7)
**6** Nut in a cereal (5)
**7** Wild girls in American bars (8)
**8** Container by mistake taken by British Airways to capital city (8)
**9** What one will find in previous TH publication - person who's no longer of interest (10,4)
**15** Brutal old rogue snatching article in capital city (4,5)
**16** Intoxicated German is slurring (8)
**17** Good Buddhist monk outside house in American state (8)
**19** Will perhaps sleep around afternoon (6)
**20** Old tenor welcomed by band, a group of six musicians (6)
**22** Male on vacation overwhelmed by lust in Arabic country (5)

## SUDOKU

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

**Solution to previous puzzle**

**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| 4 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 5 |
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| 8 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| 2 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 2 |
| 7 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 8 |
| 9 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

## FAITH

### An insult to dharma

Dushasana drags Draupadi to the Kaurava court and tries to disrobe her, but she surrenders to Krishna, who saves her from being shamed. But none in the august assembly has protested against Dushasana's conduct, although many of them, like Bhishma, Drona and Kripacharya are well learned in the Sastras. They sit with their heads bent in shame. Draupadi questions their silence, said Kidambi Narayanan, in a discourse.

Dharma is not something visible to the eye. But it shows its presence, when righteous conduct eventually is rewarded, and wickedness is punished, says Draupadi. Those who know dharma, know this. It is said "*dharma eva hato hanti dharmo rakshati rakshitah*." What this means is that if a person tries to crush dharma, dharma hits back at him. If dharma is protected, then dharma protects the one who protected it. An assembly is respected only when great men are a part of it. What determines this greatness? They must be people who speak of dharma. What is dharma? Truth is dharma. What is Truth? That which lacks deceit is truth. Vidura says that Dushasana's act is an insult to dharma. The learned men in the court hall criticise Dhritarashtra for remaining silent when such atrocious things happen in his court. Bhishma says in answer to Draupadi's questions that dharma is not understood even by the educated. In this world, sadly, might is right. When a rich man points to adharma and says it is dharma, the world does not question him, but accepts his words. Bhishma says that the Kaurava clan is soon going to be wiped out. Vidura says further that insulting a woman is even worse than gambling.

WASHINGTON

## ISS welcomes its first Saudi astronauts, in private mission

REUTERS

A SpaceX capsule carrying two Saudi astronauts docked with the International Space Station, as part of a private mission by Axiom Space. Rayyanah Barnawi, a scientist who became the first Saudi woman to go into space, and Ali Al-Qarni, a fighter pilot, are the first two persons from their country to fly to the orbital outpost. AFP

LONDON

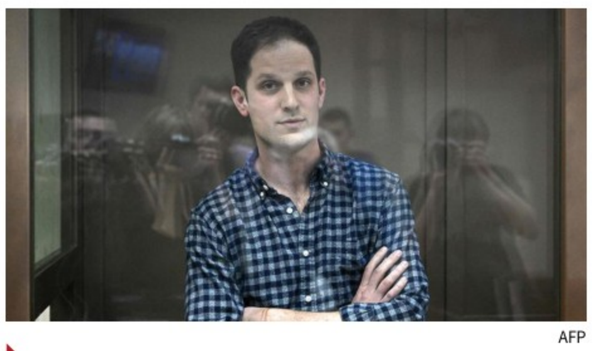
## Prince Harry loses bid to challenge British government over security

REUTERS

Prince Harry has lost an attempt to challenge the U.K. government over his security arrangements while in the U.K., according to a ruling published on Tuesday. Harry and his wife Meghan lost their U.K. taxpayer-paid protection when they quit frontline royal duties in 2020 and moved to North America. AFP

MOSCOW

## Russia extends *Wall Street Journal* reporter's detention till August 30



AFP

Russia on Tuesday extended by three months the detention of Evan Gershkovich, a *Wall Street Journal* journalist who was arrested in March for alleged spying, a charge he denies. Gershkovich's pre-trial detention was due to expire on May 29 and the hearing in Moscow to extend the term was held behind closed doors. AFP

ISLAMABAD

## Court grants Imran protection from arrest in terrorism cases

PTI

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday pressed his legal battle before a court in the capital, Islamabad, which granted him protection from arrest until early next month in several cases where he faces terrorism charges for inciting violence. Officials have been cracking down on supporters of Mr. Khan. AP

# Russia fights 'incursion' from Ukraine, reports drone hits

Twelve civilians wounded in the attack while an elderly woman died during evacuation; Kyiv blames the incursion on Russian dissidents unhappy about Vladimir Putin's policies

**Associated Press**
KYIV

Russian troops and security forces fought for a second day on Tuesday against an alleged cross-border raid that Moscow blamed on Ukrainian military saboteurs but which Kyiv portrayed as an uprising against the Kremlin by Russian partisans.

Vyacheslav Gladkov, Governor of the Belgorod region on the Ukraine border, said forces continued to sweep the area around Graivoron, where the alleged attack on Monday took place. Twelve civilians were wounded in the attack, he said, and an elderly woman died during the evacuation.

**Deceptive attack:** A building damaged in the alleged incursion in the Belgorod region of Russia on Monday. AP

. Russian territory and Russia-occupied areas of Ukraine have also been hit by drones and explosions that have derailed trains, though Kyiv officials brush off accusations of orchestrating them.

Ukraine said Russian citizens belonging to murky groups calling themselves the Russian Volunteer Corps and the "Freedom of Russia" Legion were behind the assault.

Russian dissidents unhappy about Russian President Vladimir Putin's policies were behind the assault, Ukrainian Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar said Tuesday.

**U.S. aircarft intercepted**

Meanwhile, Russia said it had scrambled an Su-27 fighter jet to "prevent violations of the state border" by two U.S. Air Force strategic bombers flying over the Baltic Sea.

"After removing the foreign military aircraft from the Russian state border, the Russian fighter went back to its air base," the Russian defence ministry said.

# IMF asks Sri Lanka to reach timely restructuring deals with creditors

**Meera Srinivasan**
COLOMBO

**An IMF team visited Sri Lanka on May 11-23, to review the implementation of its programme**

Sri Lanka is showing "tentative signs of improvement", the International Monetary Fund has said, while urging the island nation to reach timely restructuring agreements with its creditors, before the Fund's first scheduled review in September.

An IMF mission conducted a staff visit to Sri Lanka from May 11 to 23, to review the implementation of the Fund's programme aimed at helping the country achieve debt sustainability and revive its economy after last year's economic crash, the worst the country has seen since Independence.

In March, the IMF cleared a nearly $3-billion package for Sri Lanka, asking the country to "step up structural reforms".

"Following strong policy efforts, the macroeconomic situation in Sri Lanka is showing tentative signs of improvement, with inflation moderating, the exchange rate stabilising, and the Central Bank rebuilding reserves buffers. However, the overall macroeconomic and policy environment remains challenging," the visiting delegation said in a statement.

Referring to discussions on progress in debt restructuring, the visiting officials noted: "Achieving timely restructuring agreements with creditors in line with the programme targets by the time of the first review is essential to restoring debt sustainability."

**'Sharing the burden'**

Earlier this month, a 17-member "creditor committee" for Sri Lanka, co-chaired by India, Japan and France, met to discuss Sri Lanka's formal request for debt treatment. China, which is Sri Lanka's top bilateral creditor – followed by Japan and India – attended the meeting as an observer.

In a statement following the meeting, the committee stressed the need for Sri Lanka's private creditors and other official bilateral creditors to provide a debt treatment plan on terms "at least as favourable as the ones agreed by this creditor committee, in line with the comparability of treatment principle."

While India and the Paris Club have repeatedly underlined creditor parity, China has demanded that private creditors – who hold the largest share of Sri Lanka's debt – as well as multilateral lenders "share the burden" of a possible haircut.

**Economic challenges**

Sri Lanka's own economic challenges began manifesting starkly from the beginning of last year, in a balance of payments problem, before rapidly escalating into a meltdown that left citizens without essential supplies for months.

## 'Over 450 Catholic clergy abused more than 2,000 Illinois children'

**Associated Press**
CHICAGO

An Illinois Attorney-General's office investigation released found that 451 Catholic clergy sexually abused nearly 2,000 children in the State over a nearly 70-year period, which was more than four times the 103 individuals the church named when the state began its review in 2018.

Attorney-General Kwame Raoul said at a news conference that investigators found that Catholic clergy abused 1,997 children in Illinois between 1950 and 2019, though he acknowledged that the statute of limitations has expired in many cases and that those abusers "will never see justice in a legal sense."

**Lauding the accusers**

"It is my hope that this report will shine light both on those who violated their positions of power and trust to abuse innocent children, and on the men in church leadership who covered up that abuse," Mr. Raoul said, crediting the accusers for making the review possible.

The lengthy report describes Illinois church leaders as woefully slow to acknowledge the extent of the abuse. It also accuses them of frequently dragging their feet to confront accused clergy and of failing to warn parishioners about possible abusers in their midst sometimes even decades after allegations emerged about a clergy member.

The review began in 2018 under Mr. Raoul's predecessor, Lisa Madigan, who released a blistering report as she prepared to leave office. Mr. Raoul committed to continuing the investigation, and he said that 25 staff members reviewed more than 100,000 pages of documents and engaged in more than 600 confidential interactions with contacts.

## No survivors in capsize of Chinese fishing vessel

**Agence France-Presse**
BEIJING

There were no survivors after a fishing vessel carrying 39 crew members from China, Indonesia and the Philippines capsized last week in the Indian Ocean, according to an initial government probe released on Tuesday.

The Chinese vessel overturned on May 16, with 17 Chinese, 17 Indonesians and five Filipinos on board.

The boat capsized within Australia's search-and-rescue region, 5,000 km to the west of Perth.

# Tresind Studio wins two stars at the Michelin Dubai 2023 awards

**Shonali Muthalaly**
DUBAI

India shone bright at the 2023 Michelin Awards for Dubai, held at the glittering new Royal Atlantis hotel, with Tresind Studio winning two stars this year.

The prestigious guide, seen as the Oscars of the food industry, was launched in France in the early 1900s and is now in 41 destinations, with Dubai unveiled last year. A total of 14 restaurants won stars this year, with 11 receiving one star.

Besides Tresind, Ristorante - Niko Romito and Stay by Yannick Alléno got two stars each, retaining their stars from last year.

Omkar Walve of Avatāra, which focuses on vegetarian fine dining and describes its cuisine as 'soulful Indian', won the Young Chef Award, handed to chefs who stand out for their strong culinary personality. Avatāra also won its first Michelin star, along with Dinner by Heston Blumenthal and Moonrise, which were added to the list this year. The event also recognised three restaurants committed to more sustainable gastronomy, with a green star, which was awarded to Lowe, Boca and Teible.

**Moment to savour:** The awardees share the stage at the Michelin Guide Ceremony Dubai, 2023. MICHELIN GUIDE

The guide is known for its famously anonymous inspectors who travel the world and dine at establishments multiple times to determine whether they deserve to receive, or retain a star. Stars tend to have a significant impact on success: a single star denotes excellence, while three stars, the highest accolade, indicate restaurants that are extraordinary, according to the guide.

Gwendal Poullennec, the guide's international director, who joined the event via a video call, explained how the guide has, so far, selected 16,000 restaurants worldwide, out of which 3,300 have stars and just about 140 actually have three stars. As Michelin expands its footprint, he says they have also been recruiting new inspectors, all of whom are professionals from the food industry. They currently come from 20 nationalities and travel the world looking for memorable meals.

*(The author was on a visit to Dubai by invitation)*

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## INBRIEF

### Namdhari's mulls $50-million fundraise for retail expansion

Namdhari's group, which has presence in fresh fruits and vegetables, groceries, dairy, seeds and restaurants/cafes, said it was raising up to $50 million to fund the expansion of its retail business in metros and select towns across India "A financial or strategic partner will help us take our retail story forward," Gurmukh Roopra, CEO, Namdhari's group told *The Hindu*. The group currently had a turnover of ₹650 crore, with the seeds segment alone accounting for ₹300 crore.

### TTK Healthcare Q4 net climbs 60%, declares ₹10 dividend

TTK Healthcare Ltd. reported net profit for the March-ended quarter climbed 60% year-on-year to ₹17 crore. Revenue from operations rose by almost 14% to ₹180 crore while material cost saw a marginal increase of ₹1.55 crore to ₹45 crore, the company said in a filing. Net profit from continuing operations stood at ₹20 crore against ₹4 crore. Tax expenses from discontinued operations was ₹3.48 crore. The board declared a dividend of ₹10 per share.

### Builder.ai raises $250 million in Series D funding round

Builder.ai, an AI-powered composable software platform, said it has raised $250 million in a Series D funding round. The new investment, led by Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), takes the total amount raised by the company to more than $450 million. "The latest round of capital will fuel the company's continued industry leadership and innovation pipeline allowing further investments in talent, partnerships and technology," the company said.

# Draft of Digital India Bill to be released in June: Minister

Bill may significantly undo safe harbour, the principle protecting social media firms from legal liability for content posted by users; law set to overhaul rules governing Internet usage in India

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

A full-fledged draft of the Digital India Bill, set to be the biggest revamp of laws governing the Internet in India since the Information Technology Act, 2000, and subsequent amendments, will be published in the first week of June, Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar said in Mumbai on Tuesday.

"The idea is certainly to have this done in this calendar year," Mr. Chandrasekhar said, indicating that the government aims to pass the law by the winter session of Parliament. He noted that much of the law will be a 'framework' based on foundational principles, following which the Act would be "regulated through rules".

The minister pointed favourably to OpenAI CEO Sam Altman's testimony to U.S. Congress, where the executive behind ChatGPT pushed for limits on use of artificial intelligence (AI).

**Regulating AI**

"Our approach right now in the draft is about regulating [AI] through the prism of user harm," the minister noted.

"So we will say these are the 'no go areas' for these technologies. That is our thinking at the moment," Mr. Chandrasekhar said. The approach would be to create "guardrails" for high risk AI systems, he added.

**Digital reboot**

Centre intends to enact a new law in 2023, aimed at comprehensively revamping oversight of Internet usage in India

- Government aims to pass the law by the winter session of Parliament
- Law built as a framework on foundational principles, with the Act to be 'regulated through rules'
- Regulation of AI to be via prism of user harm with a clear demarcation of 'no go areas'

## India's bureaucracy could hamper investments: Moody's

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service cautioned on Tuesday that reform and policy barriers in India could hamper investments, even though it will be the fastest-growing G-20 economy over the next few years thanks to its growing manufacturing and infrastructure sectors.

Noting that India is now the world's most populous country, the global rating major expects rising per capita incomes and the country's large young and educated workforce will fuel demand for housing, cement and new cars, with public infrastructure spends spurring cement and steel output.

Moody's added that new investments will have to be funded mostly through banks and domestic bond markets owing to the central bank's cost ceiling restrictions on foreign currency borrowings.

"Despite the positive backdrop, bureaucracy could slow approval processes in obtaining licenses and setting up businesses, prolonging project gestation. This would reduce India's attractiveness as a destination for investment, especially when competing with other developing economies such as Indonesia and Vietnam," the agency underlined in a research note titled 'Growing industrial sector will drive economy, but may face investment hurdles'.

## MARKETS

**MARKET WATCH**

| | TUESDAY | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Sensex | 61,982 | 0.03 |
| US Dollar | 82.85 | -0.01 |
| Gold | 60,170 | -0.68 |
| Brent oil | 77.22 | 1.78 |

**NIFTY 50**

| | PRICE | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Adani Enter | 2633.70 | 307.60 |
| Adani Ports | 734.05 | 4.35 |
| Apollo Hosp | 4550.40 | -54.90 |
| Asian Paints | 3120.60 | 35.70 |
| Axis Bank | 916.15 | -1.40 |
| Bajaj Auto | 4498.10 | -25.15 |
| Bajaj Finserv | 1437.25 | 24.25 |
| Bajaj Finance | 6780.55 | -12.50 |
| Bharti Airtel | 799.95 | -1.90 |
| BPCL | 366.60 | 5.00 |
| Britannia Ind | 4521.65 | 22.70 |
| Cipla | 930.40 | 5.45 |
| Coal India | 239.30 | 0.60 |
| Divis Lab | 3385.80 | 120.80 |
| Dr Reddys Lab | 4460.55 | 2.90 |
| Eicher Motors | 3601.60 | 56.15 |
| Grasim Ind | 1697.95 | -20.40 |
| HCL Tech | 1107.35 | -12.50 |
| HDFC | 2705.85 | 1.10 |
| HDFC Bank | 1637.20 | -3.85 |
| HDFC Life | 562.70 | -4.30 |
| Hero MotoCorp | 2710.45 | 18.30 |
| Hindalco | 410.30 | 2.60 |
| Hind Unilever | 2628.30 | -9.80 |
| ICICI Bank | 953.40 | 3.05 |
| IndusInd Bank | 1260.20 | 14.05 |
| Infosys | 1300.05 | 7.25 |
| ITC | 429.15 | 4.40 |
| JSW Steel | 704.10 | -0.50 |
| Kotak Bank | 1921.50 | -18.70 |
| L&T | 2197.65 | -18.95 |
| M&M | 1268.55 | 3.00 |
| Maruti Suzuki | 9200.70 | 44.05 |
| NestleIndia | 21403.70 | -91.10 |
| NTPC | 174.15 | 0.05 |
| ONGC | 165.00 | -0.60 |
| PowerGrid Corp | 234.10 | -0.25 |
| Reliance Ind | 2454.55 | -0.45 |
| SBI Life | 1165.60 | 14.80 |
| State Bank | 581.60 | 4.45 |
| Sun Pharma | 931.60 | -5.85 |
| TataConsumerProduct | 770.05 | 3.95 |
| Tata Motors | 528.50 | 6.00 |
| Tata Steel | 105.60 | 0.60 |
| TCS | 3297.05 | -1.65 |
| Tech Mahindra | 1090.50 | -13.95 |
| Titan | 2683.45 | -29.10 |
| UltraTech Cement | 7654.25 | -61.40 |
| UPL | 680.65 | 10.25 |
| Wipro | 397.65 | 1.90 |

**EXCHANGE RATES**

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 23

| CURRENCY | TT BUY | TT SELL |
|---|---|---|
| US Dollar | 82.60 | 82.92 |
| Euro | 88.97 | 89.35 |
| British Pound | 102.24 | 102.64 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 59.62 | 59.85 |
| Chinese Yuan | 11.71 | 11.75 |
| Swiss Franc | 91.62 | 91.97 |
| Singapore Dollar | 61.29 | 61.54 |
| Canadian Dollar | 60.99 | 61.23 |
| Malaysian Ringitt | 18.06 | 18.15 |
| Australian Dollar | 54.67 | 54.89 |

Source:Indian Bank

## NMDC Q4 net rises 22%, firm declares ₹2.85 final dividend

**The Hindu Bureau**
HYDERABAD

India's largest iron-ore producer NMDC reported consolidated net profit rose more than 22% for the March-ended quarter to ₹2,276.94 crore.

Revenue from operations slid 14% to ₹5,851.37 crore. For FY23, net profit stood at ₹5,537.72 crore (₹9,440.42 crore).

The board of directors has declared a final dividend of ₹2.85 per equity share of ₹1 for 2022-23.

# India's global trade should go paperless: Sunil Barthwal

**Mini Tejaswi**
BENGALURU

India, an economy that has the advantage of the 'Giant Trinity' (1.3 billion Aadhar cards and over 1 billion bank accounts and mobile phones), should go paperless in global trade to lower logistics costs, improve the turnaround time of ships and enhance the efficiency of existing port infrastructure, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said on Tuesday.

While India has believed in the power of technology and has been actively deploying technology and digitisation, the country still depended heavily on paper documents when it came to cross-border trade, he said.

Sunil Barthwal

"In cross-border trade, we still use not less than three-dozen paper documents; this situation has to change and then only we can enjoy the optimum benefits of technology adoption," insisted the Commerce Secretary while speaking at the inaugural session of the G20 Seminar on Trade and Technology, the second Trade and Investment Working Group.

He added that India's priority should be to make trade inclusive with the aid of technology and

also emphasised the importance of proper regulations to protect traders and consumers from fraud.

## Reliance Retail said to fire more than 700 staff

**Press Trust of India**
NEW DELHI

Reliance Retail has retrenched more than 700 people from business-to-business vertical Jio Mart, industry sources said.

It is now integrating the Indian cash and arry business of German retailer Metro AG after completion of a ₹2,700 crore-deal.

After the acquisition, employees of Metro were transferred to Reliance Retail and there were several instances of overlapping of roles as well as functions of employees and executives, the sources said. Reliance Retail has also started reviewing the roles of staff from the other verticals of its retail business.

## ALL Q4 net profit dips 17% to ₹751 cr.

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

Ashok Leyland Ltd., (ALL) reported a 17% decline in fourth-quarter standalone net profit to ₹751 crore.

"Q4 of FY22 witnessed one-off exceptional gain of ₹468 crore," CFO Gopal Mahadevan said explaining the fall in profit. "Normalised net profit [excluding the one-off gain] would" have been ₹433 crore, resulting in a 73% jump in Q4 FY23 profit, he contended.

During Q4, revenue from operations rose to ₹11,626 crore, from ₹8,744 crore, and cost of materials increased by 26% to ₹8,080 crore, the commercial vehicle maker said in a regulatory filing.

The board recommended a dividend of ₹2.60.

Shenu Agarwal

ALL's truck market share improved to 32.7% from 30.6%. Bus market share was up marginally at 27.1% (26.4%). Domestic light commercial vehicle (LCV) vehicle volume grew by 18% to 18,840 units, said MD & CEO Shenu Agarwal.

"Going forward, last-mile connectivity demand propelled by e-commerce is likely to support LCV truck volumes," he added.

## TVS Srichakra Q4 net surges, declares ₹32 dividend

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

Tyremaker TVS Srichakra Ltd. reported standalone net profit for the quarter ended March surged more than threefold year-on-year to ₹22 crore.

Revenue from operations rose marginally to ₹647 crore from ₹646 crore, the company said.

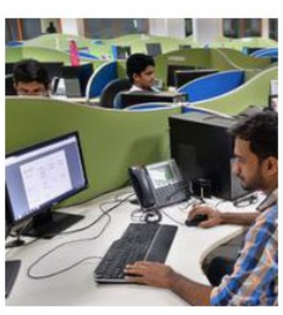
Cost of materials contracted by 15% to ₹349 crore, TVS Srichakra said in a regulatory filing.

The board of directors has recommended a dividend of ₹32.05 per share of ₹10 face value.

Shares of the company closed at ₹2,989.60 apiece on the BSE on Tuesday, losing 3.16%.

## Flexi hiring dipped 22% in FY23: ISF

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU



Enterprises that are members of the Indian Staffing Federation added 1.77 lakh flexi workers in FY23, a 22% dip compared to the 2.27 lakh they hired in the previous year.

The demand for employment in general flexi staffing was primarily driven by sectors such as FMCG, E-commerce, Manufacturing, Healthcare, Retail, Logistics, Tourism and Hospitality, FMCG, Consumer Durables, and Healthcare, Banking and Energy, said ISF, the apex body representing the manpower outsourcing industry.

The general staffing segment exhibited positive growth in the first half of the year; however, in the third quarter, it experienced a slight dip due to ongoing market caution, as per ISF.

The fiscal saw IT flexi hiring decline as a result of workforce right-sizing by the Indian tech industry due to the global slowdown.

## 'Go First yet to clarify on flight resumption'

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

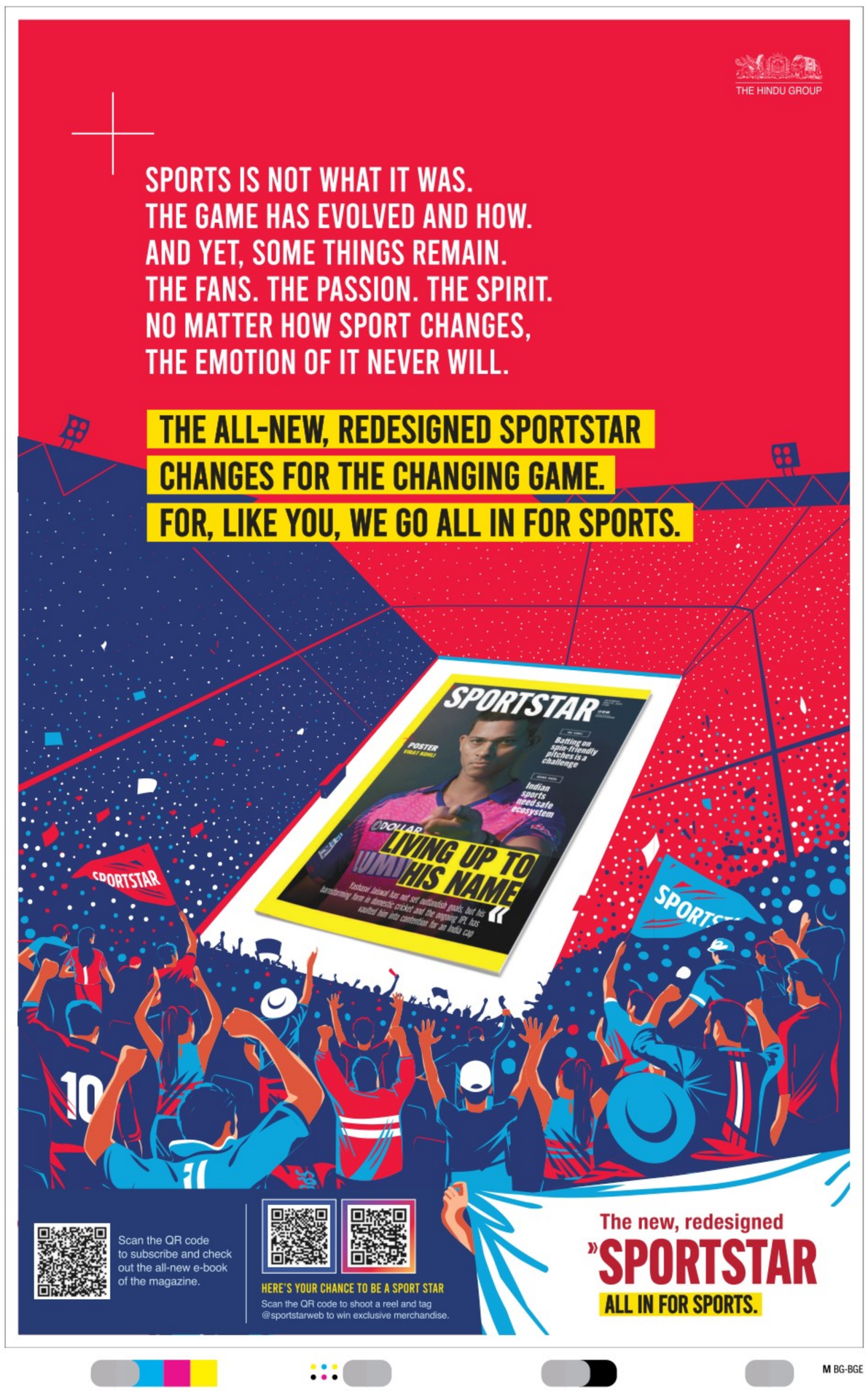
Uncertainty prevails over the resumption of Go First flights as the airline failed to provide a definite plan to the DGCA in response to a show-cause notice.

There is no definitive timeline as of now for resumption of operations by Go Air, according to a senior official of the DGCA.

They have expressed an intent to resume operations at the earliest though.

In its reply, "the airline professed interest in restarting flights and informed the DGCA of the NCLT order admitting its voluntary insolvency plea and appointing an interim resolution professional," a the official said.

Meanwhile, it is reliably learnt lessors were contemplating approaching insurers to claim a complete loss on aircraft similar to the action taken by such firms following the Russia-Ukraine conflict when lessees didn't return as many as 400 aircraft after the Western countries imposed sanctions.


THE HINDU GROUP
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SWITCH IT UP

## Kevin Pietersen suggests Kohli move to Delhi Capitals

Kevin Pietersen has suggested that Virat Kohli change his IPL franchise and move to Delhi Capitals, a day after Royal Challengers Bangalore endured yet another premature exit in the cash-rich league. "Time for VIRAT to make the move to the capital city…!" Pietersen tweeted. Kohli has been with RCB since the inaugural edition.

FOREVER FAN

## You need to be a proper devil to hate MSD: Hardik Pandya

Gujarat Titans skipper Hardik Pandya said that one needs to be a "proper devil" to harbour grudges against the talismanic M.S. Dhoni. Pandya also debunked the myth that Dhoni was a serious person. "I'll always be a Mahendra Singh Dhoni fan. You need to be a proper devil to hate Mahendra Singh Dhoni," said Pandya.

POTENTIAL MATCH-WINNER

## Irfan Pathan heaps praise on young all-rounder Green

Cameron Green — who notched up his maiden IPL century in the last league match against SRH — sent a warning to LSG ahead of the knockout game. Former India cricketer Irfan Pathan heaped praise on the young Australian and said he's a potential match-winner for MI. "MI invested big money in Green and he didn't disappoint."

FALLING SHORT

## Disappointed but we must hold our heads high, says Kohli

RCB's ace batter Virat Kohli shared a heartfelt message on Tuesday after the team was knocked out of IPL-16. "A season which had its moments, but unfortunately we fell short of the goal. Disappointed but we must hold our heads high. To our loyal supporters, grateful for backing us every step of the way," tweeted Kohli.

# Riding the yellow wave, Super Kings enter 10th final

With the faithful at Chepauk cheering them on, Dhoni's men finally surmount the Titans challenge; Chahar, Jadeja and Theekshana seal the win after Ruturaj's knock sets up a competitive total

IPL-16

**Ayan Acharya**
CHENNAI

M.S. Dhoni's Chennai Super Kings reached a record 10th IPL final in 14 seasons after a 15-run win over Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 1 at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium on Tuesday.

To their credit, Titans fought hard. But as so many have found before them, the game at Chepauk ultimately seemed to bend itself around the man wearing the No. 7 yellow jersey, who is now just a breath away from a fifth IPL title. GT will face the winner of the Eliminator in Qualifier 2 on May 26.

### Early dismissal

Titans lost Wriddhiman Saha to Deepak Chahar (two for 29) early in the 173-run chase. Hardik Pandya came up at No. 3 but holed out to backward point off Maheesh Theekshana in the last over of the PowerPlay.

Dhoni had put an extra fielder just a ball prior, to pack the off-side and force the batters to go aerial.

Dasun Shanaka was promoted to target Theekshana, which he did. But Theekshana had the last laugh when he caught his Sri Lankan skipper in the 11th over, trying to reverse-sweep Ravindra Jadeja (two for 18).

Meanwhile, Shubman Gill looked like he was batting on a different pitch, but with Jadeja's dismissal of David Miller making it 85 needed off 42, Gill had to go after the bowling.

Dhoni brought Chahar back into the attack in the 14th over, and he got Gill with a slower short ball.

Vijay Shankar and Rashid Khan raised hopes, but Ruturaj Gaikwad's diving catch at deep midwicket sent Vijay Shankar back and sealed GT's fate.

### Lucky reprieve

Earlier, bowling first, GT's Darshan Nalkande, replacing Yash Dayal, struck in his first over, but it was called a no-ball. Ruturaj, batting on two off seven celebrated the reprieve with two back-to-back boundaries.

The CSK openers took 22 off Nalkande's first two overs, forcing Hardik to turn to Rashid (1/37) and Noor Ahmad (1/29) for an over each inside the first six overs.

Ruturaj drove the full-length balls from Rashid to the fence before flaying a cut behind point in Mohit Sharma's first over, the ninth of the innings.

Mohit had his revenge in his next over when Ruturaj miscued a pull to be caught on 60. Shivam Dube's move up to No. 3 did not pay off, as he was clean bowled by a googly from Noor for just one run.

The slowness of the pitch made strokeplay difficult, and Devon Conway was eventually caught for a laborious 34-ball 40. But Jadeja and Moeen Ali's cameos helped Super Kings set up a target that eventually helped them become the first team to qualify for the final.

SCOREBOARD

**CHENNAI SUPER KINGS**
Ruturaj Gaikwad c Miller b Mohit 60 *(44b, 7x4, 1x6)*, Devon Conway c Rashid b Shami 40 *(34b, 4x4)*, Shivam Dube b Noor 1 *(3b)*, Ajinkya Rahane c Gill b Nalkande 17 *(10b, 1x6)*, Ambati Rayudu c Shanaka b Rashid 17 *(9b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Ravindra Jadeja b Shami 22 *(16b, 2x4)*, M.S. Dhoni c Hardik b Mohit 1 *(2b)*, Moeen Ali (not out) 9 *(4b, 1x6)*; Extras (b-1, lb-2, nb-2): 5; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 172.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-87 (Ruturaj, 10.3 overs), 2-90 (Dube, 11.3), 3-121 (Rahane, 14.5), 4-125 (Conway, 15.1), 5-148 (Rayudu, 17.6), 6-155 (Dhoni, 18.5), 7-172 (Jadeja, 19.6).

**TITANS BOWLING**
Shami 4-0-28-2, Nalkande 4-0-44-1, Rashid 4-0-37-1, Noor 4-0-29-1, Mohit 4-0-31-2.

**GUJARAT TITANS**
Wriddhiman Saha c Pathirana b Deepak Chahar 12 *(11b, 2x4)*, Shubman Gill c Conway b Deepak Chahar 42 *(38b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Hardik Pandya c Jadeja b Theekshana 8 *(7b, 1x4)*, Dasun Shanaka c Theekshana b Jadeja 17 *(16b, 1x4, 1x6)*, David Miller b Jadeja 4 *(6b)*, Vijay Shankar **(Impact Player in place of Mohit)** c Ruturaj b Pathirana 14 *(10b, 1x6)*, Rahul Tewatia b Theekshana 3 *(5b)*, Rashid Khan c Conway b Deshpande 30 *(16b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Darshan Nalkande run out 0 *(1b)*, Noor Ahmad (not out) 7 *(5b, 1x4)*, Mohammed Shami c Deepak Chahar b Pathirana 5 *(5b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-2, w-13): 15; Total (in 20 overs): 157.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-22 (Saha, 2.6), 2-41 (Hardik, 5.5), 3-72 (Shanaka, 10.3), 4-88 (Miller, 12.5), 5-88 (Gill, 13.1), 6-98 (Tewatia, 14.3), 7-136 (Vijay Shankar, 17.3), 8-136 (Nalkande, 17.4), 9-142 (Rashid, 18.3).

**SUPER KINGS BOWLING**
Deepak Chahar 4-0-29-2, Deshpande 4-0-43-1, Theekshana 4-0-28-2, Jadeja 4-0-18-2, Pathirana **(Impact Player in place of Dube)** 4-0-37-2.

**Toss**: Titans; **PoM:** Ruturaj.

*Super Kings won by 15 runs to enter the final to be played on May 28 in Ahmedabad.*

**Super Kings:** Ruturaj extended his fine run with a crucial 60 to take the Chennai team to 172 before Chahar dismissed the Gujarat openers and Jadeja foxed Miller with a special one. R. RAGU

## Dhoni non-committal about playing next year

Dhoni. SPORTZPICS/IPL

**Sports Bureau**
CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings captain M.S. Dhoni remained tight-lipped about his return to Chennai as a CSK player after leading the side to its 10th Indian Premier League (IPL) final on Tuesday.

On the question 'fans in Chennai... will they see you again over here?' Dhoni said, "I don't know, I have eight-nine months to decide. Why take that headache now? The auction is in December. I will always come to CSK. I have been out of home from January, been practising since March, so we will see," Dhoni said.

CSK will take on the winner of Qualifier 2 in the final in Ahmedabad on May 28 (Sunday).

# Spin attack gives Lucknow Super Giants slight edge over Mumbai Indians

**The influencers:** Pooran has fired for LSG while Green will be on a high after the hundred against SRH. K.R. DEEPAK & SPORTZPICS/IPL

**S. Dipak Ragav**
CHENNAI

After an indifferent start to their campaigns, Lucknow Super Giants and Mumbai Indians have found their bearings towards the business end of the tournament and they get ready to square off in the Eliminator of the IPL here at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium on Wednesday.

While there is little to separate the two sides, Super Giants might feel it has a slight edge.

### 3-0 for Super Giants

The Krunal Pandya-led Lucknow team has never lost to Mumbai in its three meetings over the last two years. Super Giants also got the better of Mumbai Indians in their only clash this year – winning by five runs in Lucknow.

After struggling for consistency in the early part of the season, Super Giants come into this fixture with three consecutive wins behind it.

With the pitches in Chepauk on the slower side, Super Giants will fancy its chances with a good spin attack at its disposal, led by Krunal, Ravi Bishnoi and Amit Mishra.

For Mumbai, only leg-spinner Piyush Chawla has been the standout bowler, and skipper Rohit Sharma would need someone like off-spinner Hrithik Shokeen to step up against the opposition's left-handers.

On tricky batting surfaces, where one or two quick cameos could decide the outcome of the match, it will boil down to how the teams' batting clicks.

It is here Super Giants have a potential area of concern. Though the team's overseas batters have led the run charts, the domestic batters have yet to do much.

In contrast, the five-time champion's Indian superstars like Rohit Sharma, Ishan Kishan and Suryakumar Yadav have started to fire at the right time.

It will also be interesting to see if Tilak Varma – who has missed the last five matches due to injury – is available.

The left-hander's return could further strengthen the batting unit.

For Mumbai Indians, leggie Chawla has been the standout bowler
It's not clear if the injured Tilak, who has missed the last five games, will play
Super Giants' domestic batters need to make their presence felt

### Boom or bust

Lucknow Super Giants and Mumbai Indians have everything to play for as they meet in the Eliminator. Their past record

| | |
|---|---|
| **SUPER GIANTS** | |
| 2022 | Eliminator: lost to RCB by 14 runs |
| **MUMBAI INDIANS** | |
| 2011 | Eliminator: bt KKR by four wickets<br>Qualifier 2: lost to RCB by 43 runs |
| 2012 | Eliminator: lost to CSK by 38 runs |
| 2014 | Eliminator: lost to CSK by seven wickets |

** The Qualifier-Eliminator format was introduced in 2011*

TODAY'S MATCH

ELIMINATOR

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS vs. MUMBAI INDIANS

**Chennai,** 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Played: 3

LSG 3 | MI 0

PREVIOUS MEETING

LSG won by five runs, 2023

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THE GAME CHANGER QUIZ

1. In which stroke did American swimmer Michael Phelps win his first Olympic gold medal?
2. Who holds the record for most ODI wickets in a career in men's cricket?
3. With 7805 runs, which woman cricketer has the most runs in ODI cricket?

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## INBRIEF

### Pramod wins two titles in Bahrain tournament

Pramod Bhagat clinched two gold medals in the Bahrain Para badminton international in Manama on Tuesday. Pramod defeated compatriot Nitesh Kumar 21-16, 21-17 in the SL3 singles final in 30 minutes, before combining with Sukant Kadam to down Nitesh and Tarun 22-24, 21-9, 21-14 in the SL3-SL4 doubles final.

**Other results (finals): Men: SL4:** Mohd. Amin Burhanuddin (Mas) bt Suhas Yathiraj 16-21, 23-21, 21-17; **SH6:** Man Kai Chu (Tpe) bt Krishna Sagar 21-14, 2-19. **Doubles: SU5:** Muhammad Fareez & Liek Hou Cheah (Mas) bt Chirag Baretha & Raj Kumar 21-18, 19-21, 21-14. **Women: SU5:** Qiu Xia Yang (Chn) bt Thulasimathi Murugesan 21-14, 21-13.

**Doubles: SL3-SL5:** Leani Ratri Oktila & Khalimatus Sadiyah (Ina) bt Manasi Joshi & Thulasimathi 21-19, 19-21, 21-10. **DSH6:** Nilton Quispe Ignacio & Hector Jesus Salva (Per) bt Rachana Patel & Nithya Sre 21-13, 21-7.

### Malvika, Ashmita make it to Malaysia Masters main draw

Malvika Bansod and Ashmita Chaliha progressed to the women's singles main draw of the Malaysia Masters Super 500 tournament in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday. World No. 42 Malvika beat Chinese Taipei's Lin Hsiang Ti 21-12, 21-19, while World No. 53 Ashmita overcame Canada's Wen Yu Zhang 10-21, 21-19, 21-17.

**Other results: Men:** S. Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian lost to Chi Yu Jen (Tpe) 10-21, 14-21; Mithun Manjunath lost to Chia Hao Lee (Tpe) 13-21, 19-21.

**LIVE TELECAST**

**NBA**: MTV, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6 a.m.
**IPL**: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.
**Premier League**: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)
**LaLiga**: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 a.m. (Thursday)

# Ganemat, Darshna do well in women's skeet in World Cup

The former was in control of the final with a five-point lead, but missed five of the last 10 birds against the eventual gold medallist Assem

**Podium finish:** The skeet medallists, Ganemat Sekhon, champion Assem Orynbay and Darshna Rathore on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**SHOOTING**

**Sports Bureau**

Ganemat Sekhon let the gold slip, but it was a memorable day for India in women's skeet as Darshna Rathore also joined the podium in the shotgun World Cup in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on Tuesday.

The 22-year-old Ganemat was in control of the final, with a five-point lead, but missed five of the last 10 birds against the eventual gold medallist Assem Orynbay of Kazakhstan.

Tied on 50, Ganemat was beaten to the gold medal 2-1 by the Kazakh who had qualified on top with 121.

The 21-year-old Darshna had qualified with the second-best score of 120, a national record equalling effort, and ended up with the bronze, climbing above shooters from Cyprus, Czech Republic and Greece.

It was the second individual medal in a World Cup for Ganemat, following her bronze in Delhi.

**Maiden medal**

For Darshna, it was her maiden individual medal in the international circuit.

National champion Maheshwari Chauhan shot 108 and placed 26th in a field of 35.

In men's skeet, Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Gurjoat Khangura shot 119 each and placed 17th and 19th in a field of 75.

Anantjeet Singh Naruka (118) placed in 23rd spot.

It was a tough field, and 122 made the cut for the final. Efthimios Mitas of Greece beat two-time World Champion Georgios Achilleos of Cyprus 2-1 in the shoot-off for the gold, after both tied on 56 in the final.

With a silver and bronze medal, India was third in the medals' table behind Greece and Kazakhstan.

**The results:**
**Skeet: Men:** 1. Efthimios Mitas (Gre) 56(2) 122; 2. Georgios Achilleos (Cyp) 56(1) 123; 3. Giancarlo Tazza (Ita) 47 (122); 17. Mairaj Ahmad Kkhan 119; 19. Gurjoat Khangura 119; 23. Anantjeet Singh Naruka 118. **Women:** 1. Assem Orynbay (Kaz) 50(2) 121; 2. Ganemat Sekhon 50 (1) 117; 3. Darshna Rathore 39 (120 ENR); 26. Maheshwari Chauhan 108. RPO: Karttiki Singh Shaktawat 103.

# World TT — Manika makes third round; Sathiyan bows out

**Sports Bureau**

Manika Batra scripted a facile 11-9, 14-12, 11-4, 11-8 in the women's second round of the World table tennis championships in Durban on Tuesday.

In the men's category, G. Sathiyan went down to World No. 9 Dang Qiu of Germany 6-11, 6-11, 5-11, 7-11 in the second round.

**The results (second round):**
**Men:** Dang Qiu (Ger) bt G. Sathiyan 11-6, 11-6, 11-5, 11-7.
**Women:** Manika Batra bt Wong Xin Ru (Sgp) 11-9, 14-12, 11-4, 11-8.
**Monday's results (second round): Women:** Nina Mittleham (Ger) bt Reeth Rishya 11-8, 11-3, 9-11, 11-8, 11-5.
**Doubles:** Manika & Archana Kamath bt Dora Madarasz & Georgina Pota (Hun) 11-5, 11-6, 11-7.
**Mixed doubles:** Nikhil Kumar & Amy Wang (USA) bt Manav Thakkar & Archana Kamath 6-11, 11-9, 11-5, 5-11, 11-9.

## BENGALURU ROUND-UP

### Rohan hogs limelight with unbeaten ton

Rohan Kadam (153 n.o.) gave Rajajinagar Cricketers the first innings lead over Swastic Union CC (2) in their drawn KSCA Group I, Division I league match.

**The scores:** Rajajinagar Cricketers 400/8 in 90 overs (Rohan Kadam 153 n.o., Sanjay Ashwin 47, N. Rohan 44, Nihal Ullal 80, Naga Bharath 4/84) drew with Swastic Union (2) 220 in 66.3 overs (Aneeshwar Gautam 95, Sujay Sateri 33, Gaurav Dhiman 35, Adhoksh 37, K.A. Tejas 3/49, S. Bhargav 3/58).

Sir Syed Cricketers 369 in 88 overs (Shrikara 67, Nikin Jose 75, Luvnith Sisodia 47, Tanay Valmik 72 n.o., Kushaal Wadhwani 33, Abhilash 4/63, K. Shashikumar 4/96) drew with Swastic Union (1) 366 in 80 overs (R. Samarth 99, K.V. Siddharth 111, N.A. Chinmay 61, Monish Reddy 7/72, S. Punith 3/113).

Mount Joy 174 in 31.3 overs (B.R. Sharath 69, Chirag Nayak 30 n.o., Shikhar Shetty 3/56, K.P. Karthikeya 3/52) and 129/3 in 35 overs (Sagar Solanki 75, Chirag Nayak 40 n.o.) drew with Vultures 280 in 77.4 overs (D. Nischal 33, Srujan Nandan 39, R. Smaran 102, S. Nithin 33, J. Suchith 6/78).

Cambridge 193 in 67.3 overs (Prithvi Sadanand 26, Abhay Rangan 51, S.S.G. Rohiet 26, Uttam Gowda 3/29, Suresh Karani 3/53) and 119/1 in 29 overs (Mohammed Aqib 58 n.o., Prithvi Sadanand 55 n.o.) drew with Coles 154 in 59.5 overs (Bharath Kumar 38, Kranthi Kumar 39, Uttam Gowda 30, Shubhang Hegde 3/51, Dheeraj Gowda 3/45).

Bangalore United (1) 347 in 89.2 overs (Lochan Appanna 105, Liyan Khan 30, Sharath Srinivas 128, M. Arsalaan 39, Mohammad Ashfaq 5/59) drew with Social Cricketers 174 in 55.1 overs (Aadarsh Prajwal 38, Shaun Tristan 49 n.o., Pranav Bhatia 3/38) and 56/1 in 19 overs (Aadarsh Prajwal 36 n.o.).

Friends Union (1) 153 in 38.4 overs (Lochan Gowda 45, Rishi Bopanna 27, Utham Aiyappa 26, Rajvir Wadhwa 5/23) and 168/5 in 44 overs (B.U. Shivakumar 30, Stalin Hoover 28, G.S. Chiranjeevi 55 n.o., Hriddhiman Basu 4/43) drew with Bangalore Occasionals 352/8 decl. in 78 overs (Niranjan 48, Kush Marathe 69, Suraj Ahuja 90, Rajvir Wadhwa 36).

### Kemp Junior thrashes GRK Glittering Stars

Kemp Junior FC defeated GRK Glittering Stars 15-0 in the KSFA women's B-division football league.

**The results:** Technico Football Foundation bt OTB FC 3-0; FC Bengaluru United bt Williams FC 10-0; Kemp Junior FC bt GRK Glittering Stars 15-0.

### Big win for Queens Star

Queens Star FC whipped Bharath Matha FC 13-0 in the BDFA C-division men's football league.

**The results:** Bangalore Phantom FC drew with Universal FC 0-0; Queens Star FC bt Bharath Matha FC 13-0; Reds United FC bt La Masia FC 3-0.

### State chess from May 26

The Akshayakalpa Organic Karnataka State chess championship will commence on May 26 here. The tournament, open for all age groups, carries a total prize fund of ₹10 lakh.

The Bengaluru Urban District Chess Association (BUDCA), an all-women chess association, will host the five-day event.

"The most unique highlight of our event is that we are taking initiatives to organise a zero-waste and 100% eco-friendly tournament with no use of plastic at the venue," said BUDCA president M.U. Sowmya.

"The top four finishers from this event will represent Karnataka in the Senior Chess Nationals that will be held in Maharashtra from August 15 to 27," Karnataka State Chess Association secretary Aravind Shastry.

# *Two contemporary greats and their different approaches*

**BETWEEN WICKETS**
**Suresh Menon**

"I have to stay true to my technique," said Virat Kohli after the first of two successive centuries in the IPL, reminding everyone, "We've got Test cricket after the IPL."

He was saying, in effect, that there are two ways of making runs. One is the way he normally plays, and the other is to play like someone else. When a traditionalist makes a century in a T20 game playing his normal game, the cricket gods rejoice.

The IPL can be cruel. Joe Root, according to some the greatest England batsman of all time, spent much of this year's tournament sitting in the dugout. When he was finally included in the Rajasthan Royals eleven after about a month and ten matches, he didn't bat in his first two games. After a promising T20 scoop to the fence in his third, he was dismissed for 10.

Root has played the scoop at Test level too. He has played the reverse sweep to good effect. He has consciously expanded the range of shots that have fetched him nearly 11,000 runs in Tests and over 6,000 in ODI cricket. He is going in the opposite direction from Kohli, reinventing himself as a T20 batter while Kohli is reinventing T20 in his image.

Watching the two contemporary greats in white ball cricket has been fascinating. Root enjoys T20. He earns a good salary and he hopes to play the World Cup next year. As he told an interviewer, he wants to see "how far I can take that side of my game." To explore the limits of what one is capable of is a commendable notion.

Yet, something seems off kilter. Watching Root batting in T20 is a bit like listening to classical music being played at the wrong speed. You don't want to listen to the Carnatic maestro Sanjay Subrahmanyan sing rap (even if he is very good at it).

Can there be 'highbrow' and 'lowbrow' in sport too? And if so, are Tests and T20s the respective examples? There are those who will run to their social media accounts to insist there is only good batting and bad batting just as there is only good art and bad art. Dividing into high, low and middlebrow, they will aver, is the devil's work.

**How Gavaskar adapted**

Years ago, when the 50-over game was beginning to assume airs and threatening to wipe out the longest format, India's Sunil Gavaskar expressed a dislike for it that influenced a whole generation. It wasn't real cricket. It was pyjama cricket. It was this, it was that. And it wasn't until Gavaskar made 90 in a game against the West Indies that India believed the World champions could be beaten. In less than a year they beat them twice more to become World champions themselves.

Gavaskar, the consummate professional, didn't alter his game much, he merely speeded things along, playing the supporting role especially when opening with Krishnamachari Srikkanth. His first century in the format came in his penultimate match. He finished with 108 matches, over 3,000 runs and a decent (for those days) average of 35. Srikkanth had an average of 29 from 38 matches more.

Great batsmen play to their strengths and compensate for their weaknesses. As Gavaskar did in ODI, and Kohli is doing in T20, Root could too, playing his own game.

In the last Test against India at Edgbaston, Root acknowledged the cheers on reaching a century by pulling off his glove and cocking his little finger at them. It took a moment for the penny to drop. This was from Baz Lurhmann's biopic of Elvis. Apparently, a local judge had threatened to arrest Elvis for "ruining the morality of youngsters" if he waggled his hips on stage. So Elvis waggled his finger! As he says in the movie, "In the end you've got to listen to yourself."

Root has been doing that throughout his career. And if he is set on playing the T20 World Cup, chances are he will. Batters are not obligated to look elegant when scoring runs. "I've never been a guy who tries many fancy shots," says Kohli.

Sometimes you have to look inelegant in the team's cause, Root seems to suggest. That is the burden of T20 cricket.

# Newcastle firms up CL spot; Juventus hopes dashed

**EURO LEAGUES**

**Agence France-Presse**
NEWCASTLE

Newcastle qualified for the Champions League for the first time in 20 years after a 0-0 draw against relegation-haunted Leicester on Monday.

A bad day for Juventus turned worse when a 4-1 loss at Empoli saw its hopes of qualifying for the Champions League implode. Before kickoff, Juventus was hit by a 10-point penalty for false accounting, dropping it to seventh in Serie A.

**The results: Premier League:** Newcastle 0 drew with Leicester 0.
**Serie A:** Roma 2 (El Shaarawy 47, Matic 83) drew with Salernitana 2 (Candreva 12, Dia 54).
Empoli 4 (Caputo 18-pen, 48, Luperto 21, Piccoli 90+2) bt Juventus 1 (Chiesa 85).

# Neeraj tops javelin ranking

**Press Trust of India**
NEW DELHI

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra became the World No. 1 for the first time in his career in the latest men's javelin throw rankings issued by the World Athletics.

Chopra topped the charts with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Grenada's reigning world champion Anderson Peters (1433).

Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic was third with 1416 points.

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